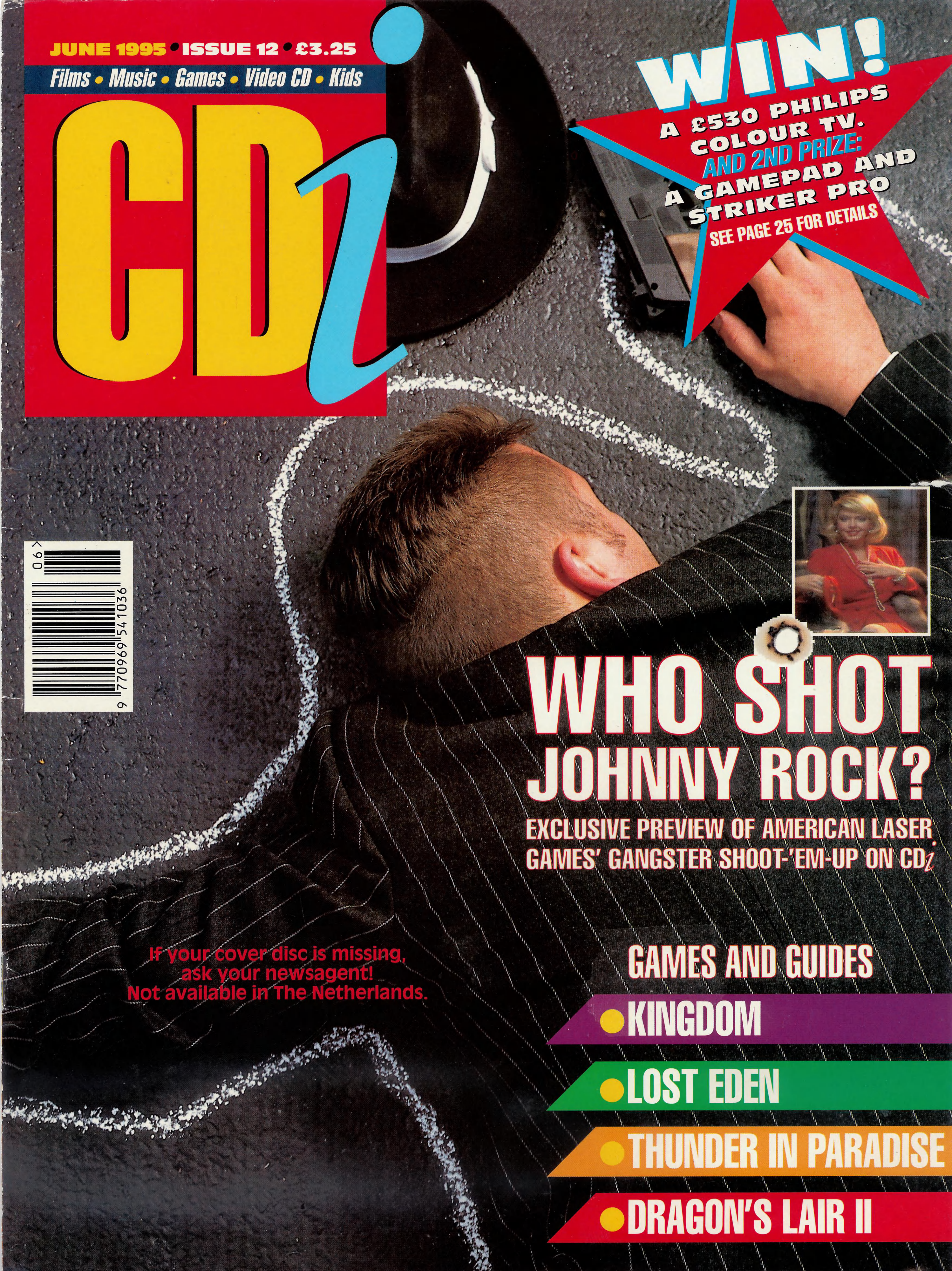
JUNE 1995 • ISSUE 12 • £3.25

Films • Music • Games • Video CD • Kids

CDi



WIN!

A £530 PHILIPS COLOUR TV.
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A GAMEPAD AND STRIKER PRO
SEE PAGE 25 FOR DETAILS

WHO SHOT JOHNNY ROCK?

EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF AMERICAN LASER GAMES' GANGSTER SHOOT-'EM-UP ON CDi

If your cover disc is missing, ask your newsagent!
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GAMES AND GUIDES

- KINGDOM
- LOST EDEN
- THUNDER IN PARADISE
- DRAGON'S LAIR II

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CD-ROM MAGAZINE
"4.5 OUT OF 5"

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INFOGRAMES CD-ROM CD-i PHILIPS PHILIPS

inside

all the latest news, reviews and scoops for CD INTERACTIVE

4 News: Andy Clough reports on some of the terrific new titles that were unveiled at the E3 show in Los Angeles last month; Bits signs joint-venture with Philips; PMI unveils three new music discs; Arnold Schwarzenegger in Video CD deal; Virtual Nightclub signed to CDi

10 Exclusive preview! A first glimpse of the classic arcade game Who Shot Johnny Rock? on CDi

14 Games Galore: Lost Eden, Kingdom, Thunder In Paradise

22 Andy Stout visits Cryo Interactive in Paris, the software company developing Lost Eden for CDi

28 Tinsel Town: news of the latest Hollywood movies on Video CD

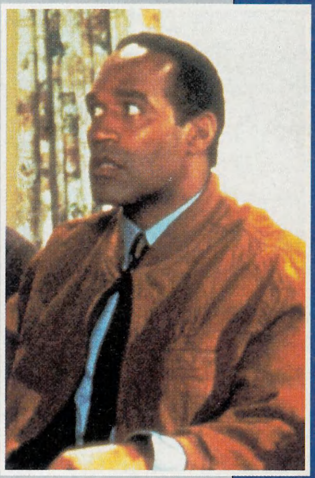
34 Music: jazz fan Patrick Bateman assesses the latest batch of musical Video CD releases from CD Vision

42 Kids' stuff: Paddington Bear, Asterix, Stickybear and the Secret of Nimh

46 Humour: jinks and japes from Jeeves and Wooster and The New Statesman

50 Player's Guides: tips for Burn:Cycle and Dragon's Lair II from our fearless duo, Steve Hayes and Darren Hedges

Gangsters, guns and dead bodies: you'll find all this and much, much more in Who Shot Johnny Rock?



Recognise this man? See movie news on p.30/31 to find out more

The French have always had a certain style about the way they do things, and nowhere is this more evident than in the software development community. Ever since the early days of CDi, French developers have been pushing CDi technology to the limits.

Just look at what Infogrames achieved with Kether in the days before Digital Video, and more recently with Chaos Control. Both titles introduced a new level of graphic realism into computer games. Now Cryo Interactive is pushing the boundaries even further with the development of Lost Eden for CDi. As our reporter discovered when he visited Cryo's Paris HQ, the French take their computer games very, very seriously. Creating the right atmosphere, both visually and aurally, is critical. Some of the scenes in Lost Eden are breathtaking.

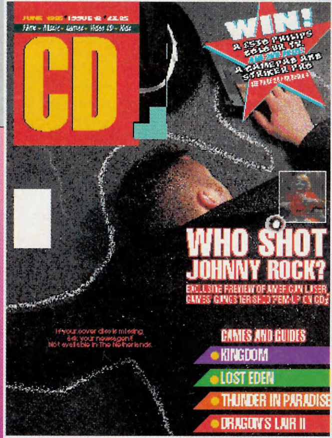
But there is a danger in becoming too involved with the technology. Developers must never, never forget that gameplay — that elusive element that makes any game so addictive — is still a vital ingredient. No amount of Silicon Graphics-generated visuals will hide the fact that some games still lack playability.

Andy Clough,
Editor

Help Dirk the Daring rescue Daphne in Dragon's Lair II

COVER

Cover designed by Ursula Morgan. Photography by Mark Tynan



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E^3 DEBUT FOR NEW

Philips chose the Electronics Entertainment Expo (E^3) in Los Angeles last month to unveil a host of new CDi games titles which are due for release this year and next.

World Cup Golf, Down In The Dumps, Demon Driver, The Dame Was Loaded, New Day, Dead End and Alien Ally are all scheduled for release on CDi (and CD-ROM) in the final quarter of this year or spring 1996.

Long-awaited titles, such as Lost Eden and Creature Shock, will also make their debut in the autumn. And this summer will see the release of Micro Machines, Discworld, Rise of the Robots and Who Shot Johnny Rock?

David McElhatten, president of Philips Media Games, says: "We have a plethora of titles coming out on CDi this year. As well as the titles announced at E^3, we have signed Mad Dog McCree II — The Lost Gold, Kingdom II and Crime Patrol for the CDi format. Voyeur II is already in production, and we will announce more new titles later this year."

Here is a taste of what's to come:

Demon Driver (Haiku)

A futuristic racing game. You are a winning young Vob (lightweight flying motorbike) racer and a social climber. Choose from 15 bike-enhancing options that include radar, turbo brakes, fins and better handling as you prepare for the three championships and the final showdown for the Morrison Trophy. Includes three play modes and 16 tracks.

World Cup Golf (US Gold): re-create the World Cup tournament or four alternative championships with the stunning Hyatt Golf Course as your backdrop in this golf simulation game. The CDi version will feature stunning fly-bys, unique to the format. It will feature full motion video images rendered on Silicon Graphics machines.

Down In The Dumps (Haiku): just what exactly is the Blub family doing in a rubbish dump on planet Earth? Why do we see them rummaging through mounds of refuse looking for who knows what? Is this their idea of a holiday? No. The only thing they want to do is get off the cursed planet! Players must rescue the Blubs from their plight, finding the objects necessary to repair the family's spaceship in the chaotic universe of the dump.

The Dame Was Loaded (Beam Software): a film noir detective story, in the style of American films and crime novels of the 1940s. The game player takes the role of a private detective, and makes decisions on how the detective will conduct his investigation. All scenes are shot from the player's point of view.

electronic entertainment expo
E
DEAD END
FREEDOM WON'T WAIT!!
& NAILS
1815
213-666-0050
INDEPENDENT

■ Producer: Cryo/Betson Entertainment

■ Platform: PC CD-ROM

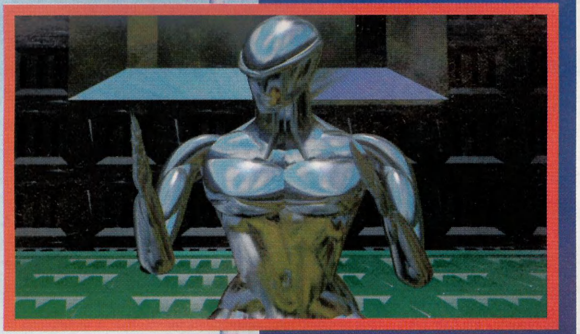
■ Available: Q4 1995

■ Category: Action

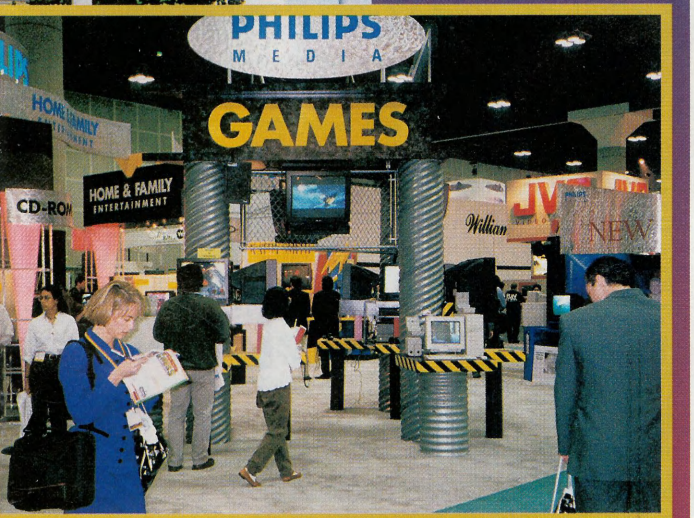
■ Description: You're driving on the mean streets of L.A., circa 2040, where you battle, as Malcolm (one bad-assed android!), through the post-apocalyptic street and highways stretching from Malibu, Downtown and beyond.

E^3 SHOW REPORT

GAMES



Left: E^3 exhibition hall. Above: Rise of the Robots. Below: the Philips Media stand. Centre: Lost Eden. Far left: Dead End



New Day (Bits): this game sets a new standard in virtual reality style immersive arcade adventures. Dwayne is an epic battle against the evil SEA Corporation ruler John Ho, in a battle half way around the world to try to avenge his parents' death. Features full cinematic sequences

Dead End (Cryo): a driving game using photo-realistic backdrops. You control a car which has to outgun other manic drivers — using searing machine guns. The game includes real footage from US highways, with wild and wacky drivers played by live actors filmed on blue-screen.

Alien Ally (Argonaut Software): as a planetary surveyor whose spaceship crash lands on a routine mission, you have to find a way of escaping from a hostile planet while averting its destruction. There are five stages — two arcade style and three 3D platform stages.

FORTHCOMING RELEASES

JUNE 5	**FILMS (VCD)**	*Naked Gun 33 1/3*	£19.99
JUNE 9	**GAMES**	*Kingdom (DV)*	£39.99
	MUSIC	*Headcrash/eScape/Antistatic*	£29.99 (3 pack)
		Opera Imaginaire (VCD)	£19.99
	HUMOUR	*The New Statesman (VCD 3 pack)*	£17.99
JUNE 23	**GAMES**	*Thunder In Paradise (DV)*	£39.99
	HUMOUR	*Jeeves & Wooster (VCD 2 discs)*	£17.99
	REFERENCE	*Concise Oxford Dictionary*	£34.99
	KIDS	*Paddington Bear (VCD 2 discs)*	£17.99
		Routes To Reading	£24.99
JULY 14	**GAMES**	*Flashback*	£34.99
		Secret Mission	£39.99
	FILMS (VCD)	*Star Trek I, II, III, IV*	£17.99 each
		Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	£17.99
		The Black Stallion	£17.99
	KIDS	*Thumbelina interactive*	£29.99
		The Secret of Nimh (VCD)	£14.99
		Asterix - Caesar's Challenge	£29.99
	MUSIC	*Peter Gabriel: All About Us (VCD)*	£19.99
	REFERENCE	*The Solar System*	£29.99
JULY 28	**FILMS (VCD)**	*An Officer and A Gentleman*	£17.99
		Raging Bull	£17.99
		Terms of Endearment	£17.99
		Rocky	£17.99
		Benny & Joon	£17.99
	REFERENCE	*Wines of France*	£39.99
		Loving For A Lifetime	£34.99

BITS CORPORATION SIGNS JOINT VENTURE WITH PHILIPS

London games developer Bits Corporation has linked-up with Philips Media to develop a range of new games for CDi and other platforms. Three titles are currently in development.

The first of these will be New Day, a futuristic adventure game, which is already in production and is due for release in the first quarter of 1996. The two other titles in development are Cartoon Academy and Riqa.

"We are thrilled to enter a long term partnership with such a dynamic company", says Philips Media president Scott Marden. "By combining our expertise in technology and distribution with Bits creativity and strength in cutting edge production techniques, we can create some of the hottest new software in the market."

In New Day, which is currently being filmed at the Roundhouse in Camden, north London, you take the part of Dwayne, who wakes up after a devastating explosion. He then takes a journey through the non-linear virtual world of the game to discover why he is under threat and how his murky past is tied to his current predicament. His quest takes him from London to Vietnam, home of his mother's family and also of the electronics giant SEAcorp.

New Day features 60 real-life characters and is being filmed using 16 digital cameras on a 360 degree blue screen circular stage.

Foo Katan, president of Bits Corporation, says: "We have been working with Philips Media for the last year on New Day. I believe this venture will allow us to fully harness Philips Media's distribution strength and support, enabling us to create highly innovative leading titles." Bits has already worked on top game titles such as Terminator, Spider Man, Robin Hood — Prince of Thieves and Aliens 3.

FAMILY FUN

The family and home entertainment label of Philips Media in Los Angeles unveiled a host of new titles at E^3. Legendary superstar Diana Ross is to narrate the part of Glinda the Good Witch in the CDi version of Treasures of Oz. Based on the classic book by L Frank Baum, the disc will enable kids to explore the land of Oz, meet Dorothy, Lion, Scarecrow and Totot, watch animations and listen to music. There will also be sentence-building, word searches and six arcade games to add to the fun.

Philips Media has also signed a deal to bring two children's titles,

VIRTUAL MUSIC FROM THE CRANBERRIES

Island Records' top-selling band The Cranberries will launch the world's first so-called "multi-session" (Rainbow) music disc, which will play on CDi, Macintosh, Windows PCs and audio CD players, this autumn.

Early work-in-progress on the title, called "Doors and Windows", was first shown at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas last January. At E^3, development work on the title had advanced considerably and working demos were on show.

Fans can navigate through the band's favourite pub, living room and rehearsal studio while enjoying rare video footage, interviews with the band, a virtual photo album and of course their music. There will be five new Red Book audio tracks on the disc which have not been heard before on either of the band's two previous albums.

Release is due this autumn and the CD will cost around $20 in the US.

SHAPE UP WITH CDi

Fitness fanatics in America will soon be able to buy their own interactive fitness disc on CDi.

Kathy Smith — Personal Trainer claims to be the first truly interactive exercise program. Users can customise their home workout programs to suit their own goals and abilities by choosing from aerobics, aerobox and body sculpting weight training. You can set your own fitness level, exercise frequency and preferred exercise styles.

In the "Personal Trainer" mode, Kathy (pictured right) asks users to select which goals are most important to them: lose weight, tone muscles, lose inches, improve stamina or reduce stress. Each workout program features between two and five different workouts, which vary throughout the week.

The "On Your Own" mode allows you design your own workout, selecting time, style and level. Up to nine of the workouts can be stored in the CDi player's memory.

The disc will be released in the US this autumn.

■ *British software company I-Contact is developing an interactive exercise disc for Video CD and CDi called Cosmopolitan Tonetics: Six Weeks to a Beautiful Body.*

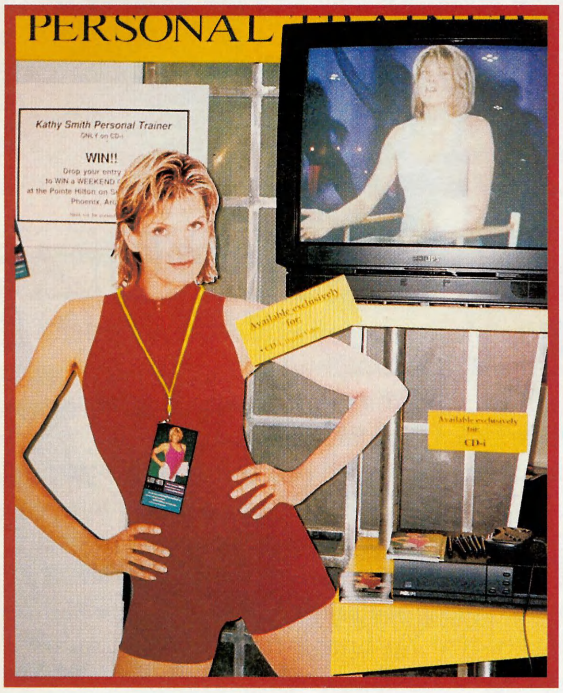
It stars internationally known aerobics presenter Nancy Popp, and is an extension of Cosmopolitan's

Kids will be able to explore the land of Oz in a new CDi game

The Poky Little Puppy and GeoSafari, to CDi. The Poky Little Puppy, from Little Golden Books, features a mischievous puppy and his rollicking siblings. This animated storybook features preschool activities such as exploring shapes, numbers and colours. GeoSafari, based on the successful electronic game of the same name, allows up to four players or teams to compete against the built-in timer to answer fun, educational questions on world geography. The disc, which features 45 games, covers topics such as dinosaurs, insects, the human skeleton and world geography. Other titles due for release from the family entertainment group include Lamb Chops Loves Music, starring child entertainer Shari Lewis and her puppet Lamb Chop, and Fun With Electronics, an interactive program from the Cybercrafts: Hands-On-Learning series, designed to teach children the principles of electricity. It will be packaged with a workbench and tool box .

THE TERMINATOR IS COMING

Arnold Schwarzenegger, star of the Terminator films, is coming to Video CD! US film company LIVE Entertainment, which owns the rights to the Terminator films and 2,000 others such as Rambo, Basic Instinct Reservoir Dogs, The Piano and Dirty Dancing, has signed a Video CD licensing deal with Philips Media. One of the first releases is likely to be Total Recall, but release dates were still to be confirmed at the time of going to press. Further details will follow in August.



Tonetics line of workout products. The disc offers a six week program to flatten the stomach, slim the thighs and shape the buttocks and legs. Users can follow the standard program or design their own by accessing 15 specific sequences for different areas of the body. When played on a CDi player, the machine will keep track of the user's location in the program.

PHILIPS GETS WIRED

Users of the Internet can now access online services for CDi through Philips's own web site in Los Angeles.

Anyone wishing to obtain information on CDi software or hardware, games tips and other advice should contact http: / / www. polygram.com.

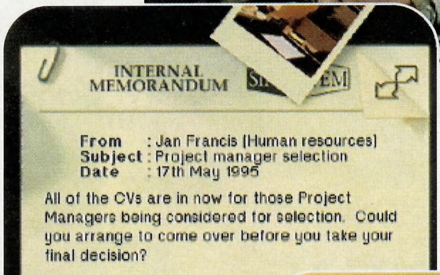
LIFE IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES

Forrest Gump, the blockbuster film starring Tom Hanks as a simple but well-meaning American hero, has just been released on Video CD in the US and will be available in the UK this autumn.

The three-disc set includes a third disc called "Through the Eyes of Forrest Gump" which gives a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the film which won six Academy Awards.

It includes rare footage of the film's special effects and interviews with Hanks, co-star Sally Field and director Robert Zemeckis.

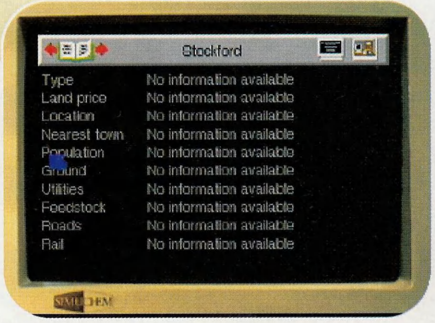
MAKING THE GRADE: WIN £1000!



INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

From : Jan Francis (Human resources)
Subject : Project manager selection
Date : 17th May 1995

All of the CVs are in now for those Project Managers being considered for selection. Could you arrange to come over before you take your final decision?



Stockford

Type No information available
Land price No information available
Location No information available
Nearest town No information available
Population No information available
Ground No information available
Utilities No information available
Feedstock No information available
Roads No information available
Rail No information available

Petrochemical giant BP is to launch a CDi simulation game, called "Making the Grade", which challenges players to mastermind a multi-million pound business project. Prize money of £1,000 will be allocated every three months to the person with the highest score.

To play, you must plan, construct and run a plastics production plant. At the end, your score depends on three criteria: your overall profit or loss, PR skills and environmental issues. You can be fired at any time during the game. Your score is encrypted in a special code, which must then be sent to BP if you wish to enter the competition.

It has taken three years to develop the title which was produced by 3T Productions of Stockport, the company behind the CDi version of "Cluedo". 3T brought in a team of scriptwriters to work on the project, and used professional actors for all the Digital Video sequences.

"We originally thought of developing a board game," says Jane Measures of BP. "Then we heard about CDi from Philips and decided to create a more fun, interactive game with a touch of Dallas to it. Much of the filming was done at the BP plant in Grangemouth, Scotland. 3T has done a great job."

The game has three phases. First, you must choose a suitable site to build the plant and select a project manager to help you. Next, you must get the plant built and finally you must start production in order to make a profit. You can select one of three difficulty levels: simple, medium or complex.

Brian Palmer, manager of education and community affairs at BP, led the team which made the disc. "The style of the game is intelligent soap opera. We wanted to communicate with the widest possible audience about working in our industry. To do that, we had to make the game varied and fun."

Copies of the disc are available by mail order for £30 from: BP Educational Services, Phoenix House, Marshes End, Upton Road, Poole, Dorset BH17 7AG (Tel: 01202 669940). Major credit cards accepted.

BEASTIE BOYS
SABOTAGE

VIRTUAL NIGHTCLUB

Trip Media, the software company behind the hugely successful CDi game Burn:Cycle, is to produce an interactive music title called Virtual Nightclub.

Regular readers may recall this title was first mentioned in issue 1 of CDi Magazine. Since then, Trip Media has been looking for someone to back Virtual Nightclub and Michael Kushner, head of multimedia music at Philips Media, has agreed.

It is believed that Kushner is trying to get a number of artists on the PolyGram record label, which is part-owned by Philips, to contribute to the disc. This would avoid expensive copyright problems.

Herbie Hancock has apparently agreed to release a track specially for use on Virtual Nightclub.

Filming for the title is currently taking place in New York.

Release is scheduled for the end of this year.

PMI UNVEILS NEW VIDEO CD DISCS

The video division of record giant EMI, Pcture Music International, is to release a further three Video CD titles this month.

Duran Duran's compilation *Decade,* Nigel Kennedy's version of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and *Sabotage* from the Beastie Boys will go on sale in June. Later this year PMI will also release a double live album of last year's Pink Floyd concert, called *Pulse*, and *Barbara Hendricks: A Tribute to Duke Ellington*, on Video CD.

Ever since they broke into the charts in 1981 with *Planet Earth,* Duran Duran have had a series of hit singles. *Decade* contains an 18 track compilation of promotional videos spanning the group's career and updates the original VHS version. It includes all their hits, from *Girls on Film, Hungry Like the Wolf* and *Save a Prayer* to their more recent singles such as *Violence of Summer, Serious, Ordinary World and Come Undone.*

The Beastie Boys' *Sabotage* is a 60 minute programme containing promo videos and live footage with tracks from their albums *Ill Communication, Check Your Head* and *Paul's Boutique*. It includes the memorable promo for the Top 20 single *Sabotage*, a spoof on 1970s cop shows.

For classical music lovers, Nigel Kennedy's performance of *The Four Seasons* with the English Chamber Orchestra was captured on film in the style of a rock concert. He discusses his unique interpretation of the work on the disc.

These three titles will be available in late June. For further information, call PMI on 0171 486 4488.

I2m launches video expansion card

International Interactive Media (I2m) has introduced an expansion card for Apple Macs and PCs fitted with a double speed CD-ROM drive that will allow them to play back all CDi titles. It costs $1,200 (£750).

The MediaPlayback Professional displays video directly onto the computer's VGA monitor using an on-board video overlay solution. It will play interactive CDi titles as well as linear Digital Video, Video CD and MPEG 1 Real Time files at 30 frames per second using full motion MPEG video. Around 300 existing CDi titles can be viewed directly on the computer's monitor or through an external RGB, NTSC or PAL monitor or TV set.

For further details, contact International Interactive Media on 001 617 290 5964 or fax 001 617 890 6682.

THE INTERACTIVATOR TOUR

Philips Media is taking to the road this summer with its "Interactivator Tour" bus which will travel the UK to demonstrate a range of CDi, Video CD and CD-ROM family edutainment titles.

There will be prizes to win each day, including a CDi player with Digital video cartridge, a batch of kids software and a Thumbelina video.

Celebrities will be on hand to demonstrate the latest in CDi software. The tour runs from July 19-August 3 and will visit the following places:

July 20, St Enochs Sq, Glasgow
July 22/23, Alton Towers, Staffordshire
July 25, Eureka Museum, Halifax
July 26, Parliament Sq, York
July 27, Albert Dock, Liverpool
July 28, Victoria Sq, Birmingham
July 29, Broadmead, Bristol
July 30, Pier Approach, Bournemouth
August 1, Commercial Road Precinct, Portsmouth
August 2, Thurrock Lakeside, Essex
August 3, Covent Garden, London

The tour is being supported by the Young Telegraph and the Children's Channel (presenter Violet Berlin will film on location). The bus will be fitted out with 16 demonstration units and an extensive range of software.

CATCH THE Young Telegraph & Philips CD-i BUS
CDi-IT'S GADGETRONIC!
FUN ★ PRIZES ★ STARS ★ GAMES!
ZOOM!
Philips CD-i

Above: last year's CDi bus tour was a huge success

VIDEO CD PLUS ALBUM

British software company OmniMedia is developing an interactive version of its Video CD title "Sade: Life, Promise, Pride, Love" for Sony Music.

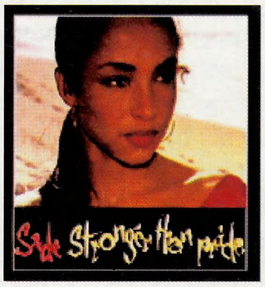
The Sade album has already been released as a linear Video CD, but now OmniMedia is developing a prototype system to bring CD-ROM style interactivity to the title.

OmniMedia has branded the system Video CD Plus. It overlays the existing MPEG video with interactive icons that lead to boxes containing additional information about the singer.

The demo interactive Sade disc contains eight White Book MPEG videos, some Red Book audio tracks (which will play on an ordinary CD player), 6,000 words of text, 40 still photographs and a quiz.

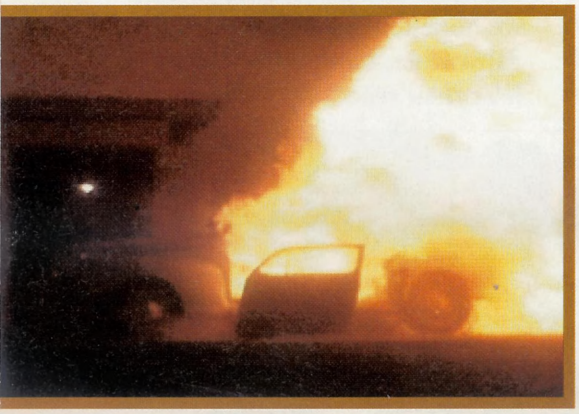
It will be CDi and PC compatible, and has cost around £45,000 to develop so far.

OmniMedia director Allen McCaskill says: "The demo was finished in May and we have shown it to Sony. If they like it, we hope to release the disc in September, but we are waiting to hear their reaction."



WHO SHOT JOHNNY ROCK?

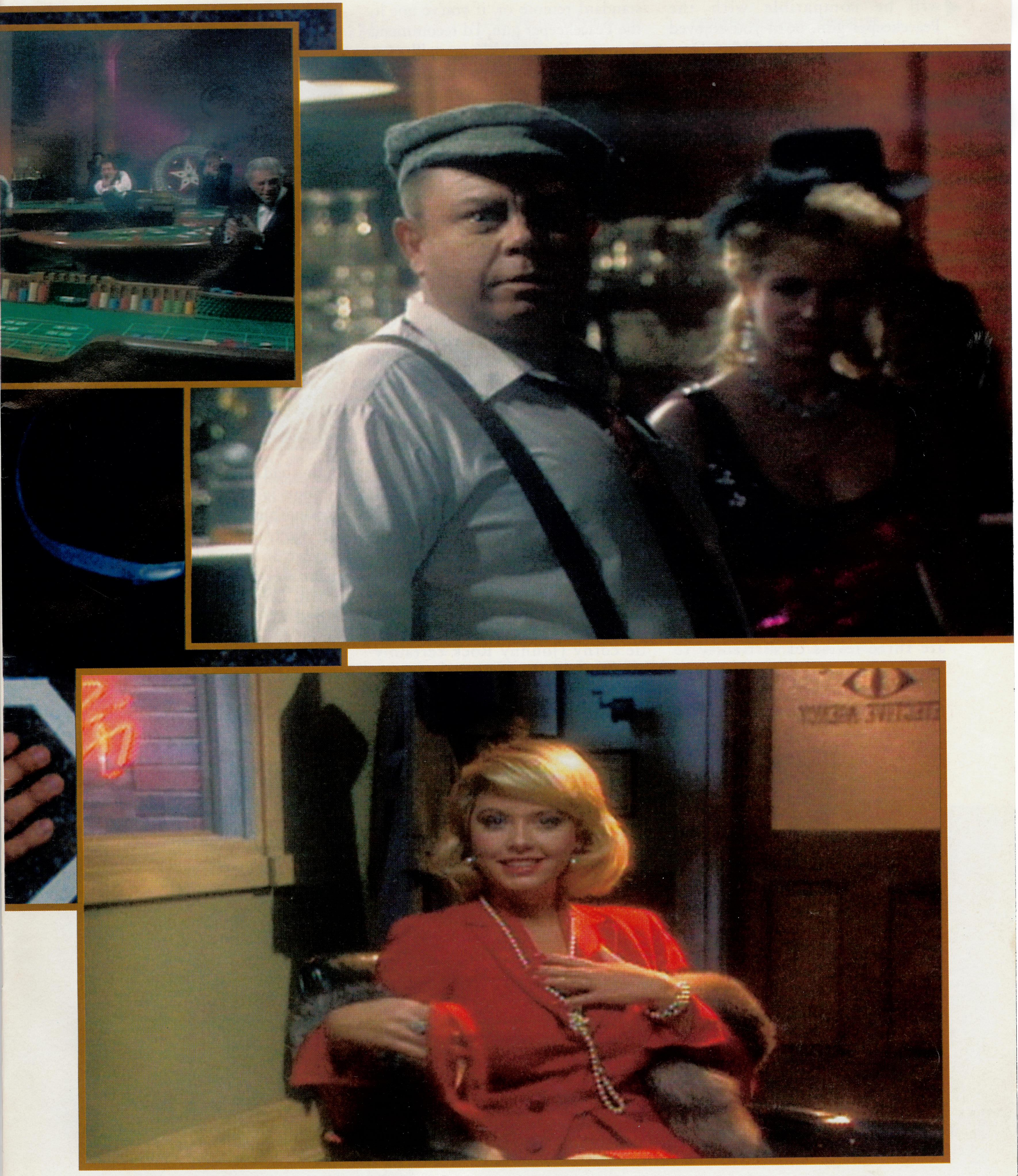
An action-packed shoot-'em-up, Who Shot Johnny Rock? has a murderous plot crammed with gangsters, molls and guns. Private eye **ANDY CLOUGH** dodges bullets, brawn and beauty



OK, so you've seen "The Untouchables" and you fancy yourself as Al Capone: the smart suits, the shiny cars and those sharp shooters. If anyone gets on your nerves, you'll just send the boys round and they'll deal with the problem. No more being Mr Nice Guy.

What we have here is a world of gangsters, babes and guns. A perfect combination for a shoot-'em-up. Throw in full motion video, a murderous plot and plenty of action, and you've got a more modern version of Mad Dog McCree.

That's no surprise, really, as Who Shot Johnny Rock? was originally developed by American Laser Games, the company behind Mad Dog McCree. Now Johnny Rock, like its predecessor, is being converted to the CDi format by CapDisc. And the good news is that it, too, ▶



◀ will be compatible with the Peacekeeper gun. So if you enjoyed zapping the cowboys in Mad Dog, you'll love this one too.

The basic story line shouldn't tax your brain too much. Johnny Rock, a well known local singer, has been murdered. His girlfriend, Red, is out to seek revenge and as the police have closed the case, she is forced to hire a private eye. That's where you, the player, comes in. You have to decide whether you should take the case — a decision you may live to regret. Red uses all her charms of persuasion to get you to help her out. "I want you to nail the rat that did this," she drawls. "I want you to put him away until he's as old and grey as the concrete in his cell. I can make sure it will be worth your time." I bet!

But you know she's trouble from the minute she walks in the door. It's not long before the guns start shooting and you're fighting to save your own life. There are gangsters at the door, gangsters at the window, gangsters in the elevator. Blink and you are dead.

Before you start the game, there are three levels of difficulty to choose from: easy, medium and hard. I took the easy route to begin with. You can either play with the standard remote or, if you've got it, the Peacekeeper gun. I'd recommend the gun. Your neighbours will soon be calling the police as you dive around your living room shouting "Die, you sonofabitch!" and blasting away at the TV. This is not a game for the kind hearted. But it is *fun.*

As ever, the disc is programmed to do some clever things. So just when you think you've discovered from which direction a particular gangster will take a shot at you, everything will change. That innocent-looking lady with the flowers will suddenly turn into a serial killer. And never, never trust a man with a violin case!

The key to the murder is, apparently, in Johnny's safe. Part of your task is to collect the numbers that will open the combination. You have 400 bullets and $2000 to start with. Each time you fire, you lose a bullet. If you are hit, the amount of money displayed on screen will fall. When you run out of dollars, you're dead.

The quality of the Digital Video is way ahead of other games systems, although we only had a pre-production disc to play with. Sure, the characters and dialogue may be a little corny (Johnny Rock certainly won't win any Oscars), but who cares. You'll get a ridiculous sense of satisfaction every time you zap one of the bad guys. Don't forget, the surgeon is always on hand if you mess up but he's not the most sympathetic of characters! You can only survive so many hits before the undertaker comes to take you away.

Mad Dog McCree kept us entertained for hours, and Who Shot Johnny Rock? looks as if it should be just as good. CDi handles full motion video better than any other system I know, bringing arcade-style quality and action into the home.

Produced by CapDisc
Cost: TBA
Available: September

LOST EDEN

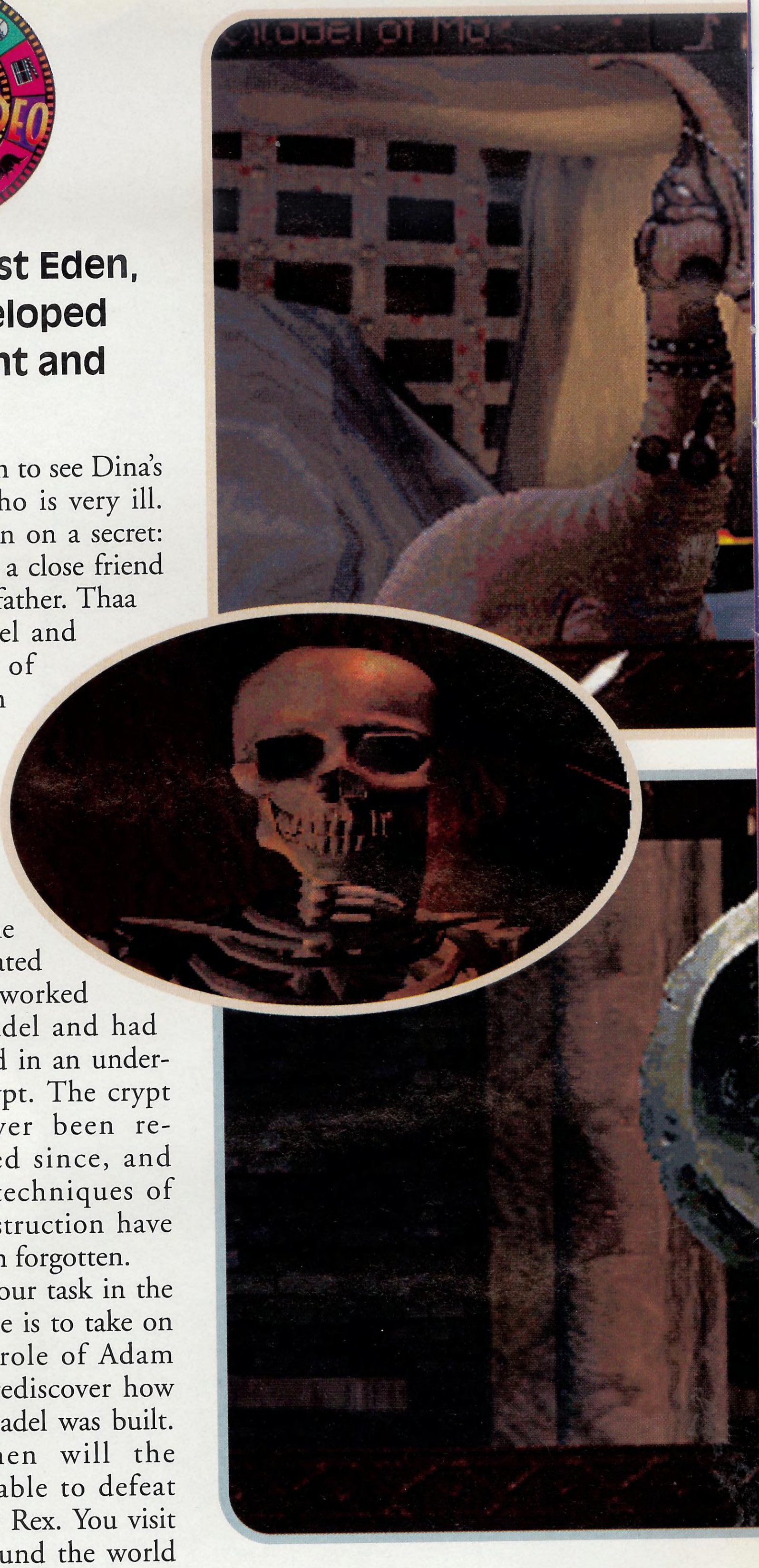
ANDY CLOUGH delves into the world of Lost Eden, the strategy/adventure game being developed for CDi by Virgin Interactive Entertainment and French software house Cryo Interactive

War is raging. Man battles against an army of giant dinosaurs, led by the terrifying Moorkus Rex, who has only one aim: to destroy the human race and rule over the whole planet.

Only one town holds out against the dinosaur attacks. It is called the Citadel. For centuries, this fantastic fortification has protected the Priam dynasty against Moorkus Rex's legions of tyrannosaurs. But there is a problem: the secret of how to build the Citadel died with its creator, Priam the Builder. Now Adam, son of Priam the Conqueror who fought brilliantly against Moorkus Rex's forces, must try to rediscover how to build more citadels to protect the humans from the dinosaur attacks.

While the tyrannosaurs are violent, blood-thirsty warriors, the non-violent vegetarian dinosaurs are used as slaves by the humans. Adam secretly forms a friendship with Dina, his own dinosaur slave. She tells Adam about the suffering of her own kind: thousands of them die under the yoke of humans and Moorkus Rex's cruelty. Once the dinosaurs and humans were equal, but no more.

One night Adam has a dream. In his dream, Dina calls to him, urging him to follow her. Adam agrees. Dina leads him through a series of underground passages, and for the first time in his life, Adam is outside the Citadel. He is taken to see Dina's grandfather, Thoo, who is very ill. But Thoo lets Adam in on a secret: Priam the Builder was a close friend of Thaa, Thoo's grandfather. Thaa worked on the Citadel and knew all the secrets of construction. Adam must rediscover those secrets so that new citadels can be built.



Unfortunately, there is one small snag. Priam the Builder's son, Priam the Revisionist, exterminated all the builders who worked on the original Citadel and had Thaa imprisoned in an underground crypt. The crypt has never been reopened since, and the techniques of construction have been forgotten.

Your task in the game is to take on the role of Adam and rediscover how the Citadel was built. Only then will the humans be able to defeat the army of Moorkus Rex. You visit various locations around the world of Eden, travelling from place to place by plodding brontosaur caravan or with the help of a flock of pterodactyls. As you travel through the deserts, mountains and forests in each area, you must persuade the herbivores of your good intentions so they will help you build a citadel. Once man and herbivore are protected against Moorkus Rex and his forces, the game enters its second phase leading to the final conflict with Moorkus himself.

That, in a rather large nutshell, is the plot. Lost Eden has been developed by the French software company Cryo and has just been released on CD-ROM. It is being converted

to CDi for release later this year. Although no CDi disc of the game is available yet, find out more about how it has been put together in our interview with Cryo (page 22).

Produced by Cryo Interactive/Virgin Interactive Entertainment
Cost: TBA   Available: September

KINGDOM: THE FAR REACHES

Swords, sorcery, wizards, magic beasties, evil mages and demons. ANDY STOUT girds his loins and ventures into a world of fantasy

There's a school of thought that says if J R R Tolkien had never been allowed near a typewriter in his life, then the world would be a much better place. Well, maybe not the world. But bookshops at least would not have to keep cramming the sixth and seventh volumes of some creaking fantasy saga onto their already groaning shelves.

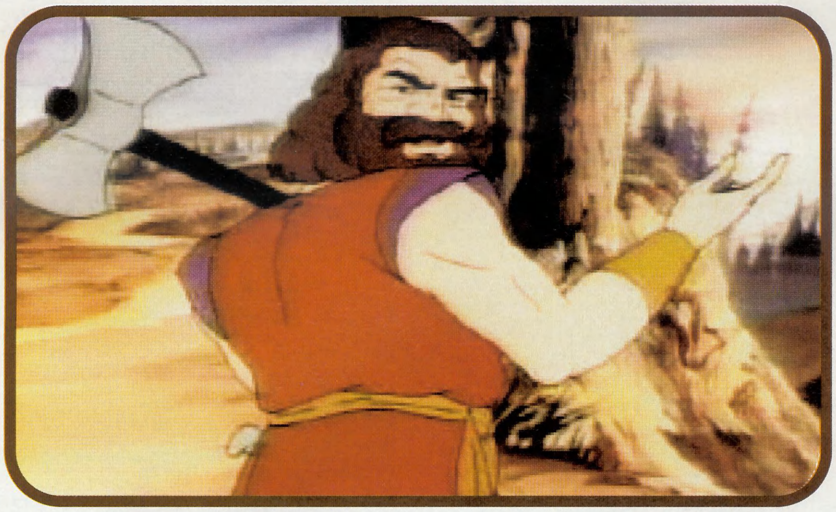
You know the sort of thing: the "Third Spoke in the Punctured Wheel of the Galadrieth" or the seventeeth book of some comedy saga which satirises the morals and mores of the world around us (yeah, right). Anyway, stuffed with preconceptions about how dire any fantasy-based, animated CDi role playing game must be, I placed Kingdom: The Far Reaches into the CDi player with some trepidation. Soon people with more apostrophes in their names than vowels would be parading their large bosomed/mighty bodies across the screen. Armies would battle, dragons would belch flame, mystical spells be invoked and The Dark Forces of Evil be slain while my cat stalked out of the room, affronted at the insult to its intelligence.

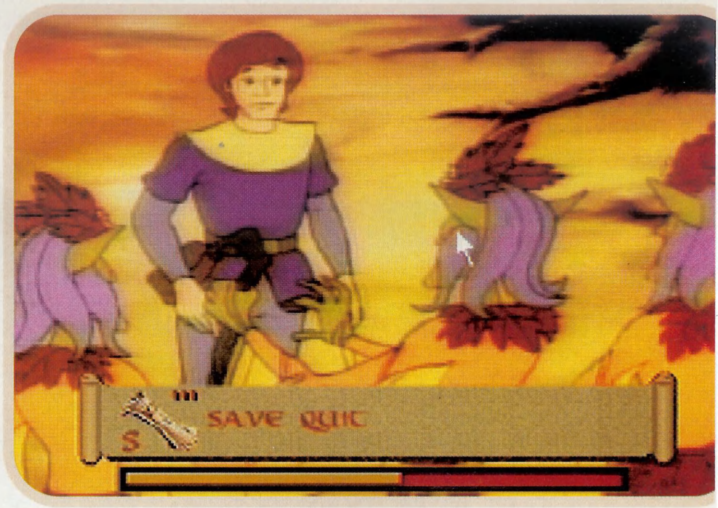
I was proved wrong. A couple of hours later I'd finally worked out how to stop getting killed by the Crystal Tigers and was thinking of sending out for a pizza.

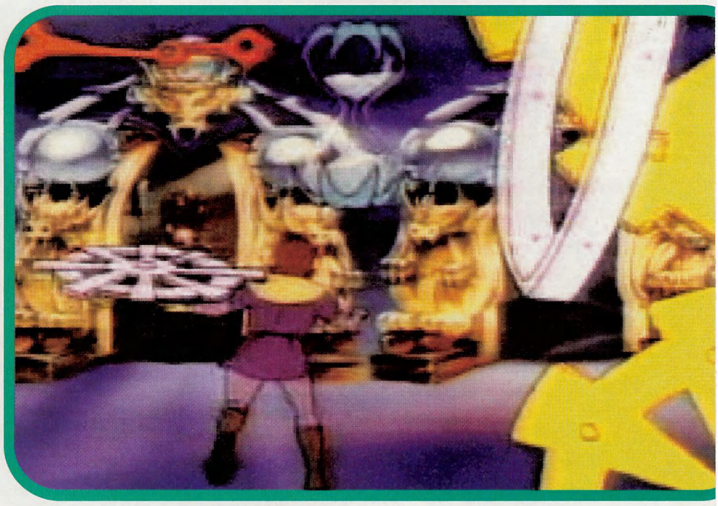
Despite its fairly ludicrous plotlines, Kingdom is a rather good game. In fact, it's approaching the realms of very good. The disc is loaded with a vast amount of data and more ways to die than you'd care to imagine.

For a more detailed outline of the plot, see the preview we ran in the April issue of CDi Magazine. Suffice to say that you are on a quest and those Dark Forces of Evil we mentioned earlier are out to stop you from completing it by using every nasty, underhand trick in the book. What it is hard to convey is the sheer size of the game. It's HUGE!

Developer CapDisc (those lovely people that brought you Mad Dog McCree on CDi) have levered a claimed 300 locations into the game, giving it a vast playing area. This means that Kingdom isn't something you are going to complete in a couple of hours, a criticism made of some other CDi games we could mention. Far from it. In a couple of hours you will probably have got as far as wondering just how to get past the Plague Magician and to the Crystal Castle, which is in fact about two minutes into the actual game. Hence the need for pizza.







Are there any drawbacks? Well, yes, there are. Arriving at a new screen can have you frantically waggling the cursor all over the picture trying to locate a hotspot before you die. It's not quite as bad as games like Dragon's Lair, but it comes pretty close at times. There also seems to be no way of cutting off the animation sequences.This leaves you mouthing the words sarcastically along with the characters while trying to refrain from putting your boot through the TV if you've gone through the same sequence a couple of times already.

But these are more quibbles than drawbacks. Kingdom has managed to resuscitate the animated interactive movie genre of game and its size and challenge should ensure it a good following. Even my cynical old cat liked it.

Produced by Virtual Image Productions/CapDisc

RATINGS

Graphics: 85%

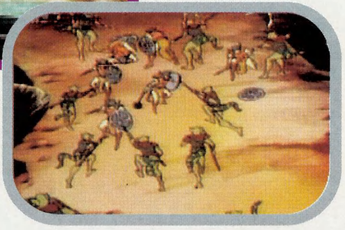
Sound: 86%

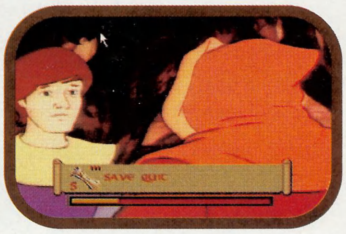
Interactivity: 83%

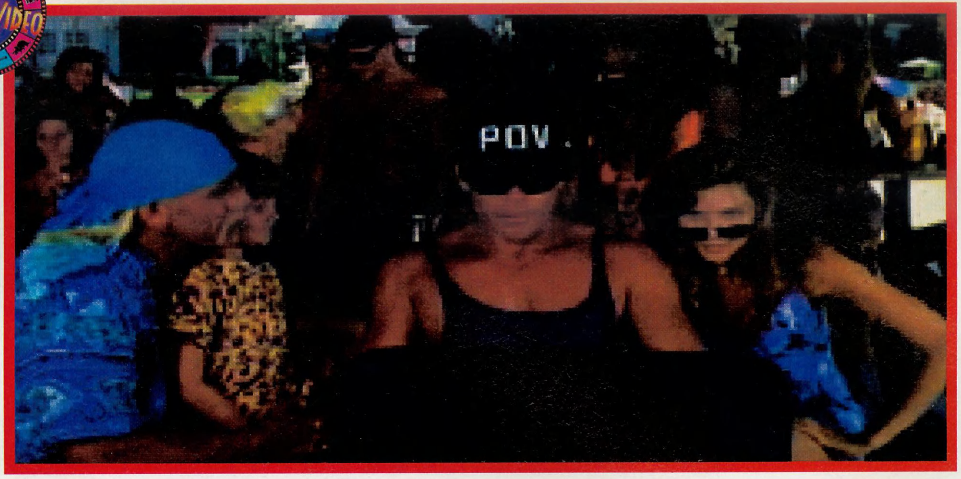
Overall: 86%

Cost: £39.99

Out: June 9







HULK HOGAN and CHRIS LEMMON make their interactive TV debut

THUNDER IN PARADISE

Altogether now: "Thun-DER, THUN-der in Paraaaaaaaadizzzeee!" You'll soon be singing along to the opening theme tune of this Z-grade "action adventure" TV series, but after a while it will drive you nuts.

Philips has decided that this series, which stars Terry "Hulk" Hogan, Chris Lemmon and a large speedboat called Thunder, would make a wonderful piece of interactive television. Welcome to Thunder in Paradise Interactive.

Boot up the disc and you're presented with three options: the TV show only, Interactive TV or Game Only. Click on TV Show and you can watch an entire episode of the series without any interaction whatsoever — once you've taken out the first disc and replaced it with the linear Video CD disc.

But it's the interactive TV option that Philips is most keen to promote. You play the part of Zack, a teenage whizzkid who helps the ex-Navy SEALS Hogan and Lemmon track down a genetically-created soldier — The M.a.j.o.r. — who has run amok and kidnapped a five-year-old girl, Jessica, who plays Hogan's adopted daughter.

Footage from the TV episode is then spliced with interactive segments where Zack — that's you, remember — has to do some kind of neural link-up and blast everything in sight. This wanton destruction either takes place on the boat, where you control an on-screen crosshair to defend your four flanks, or on land, where an on-screen crosshair is superimposed on to point-of-view footage while bad guy sprites leap out of various nooks and crannies.

Developer, Mass Media, claims that the gameplay is a cut above that offered by other DV shoot-'em-ups such as Lethal Enforcers or Mad Dog McCree. "In our game, the player can actually be running through the environment," says the game's director Robbie Weaver. "We have the ability with CDi to stop a stream of video footage and put the bad guys up. You feel that you are actually inside there."

That's true — to a point. The stalking, first-person perspective does ramp up the feeling of being immersed in the action. And the use of sprites rather than real actors for the baddies allows more flexibility to randomise the gameplay and for speedier shot detection. (The small but perceptible lag in games such as Mad Dog McCree can become very tiresome.) But it also means you *know* that when the footage is moving it is non-interactive, and that when it freezes you'd better start shooting. It's a bit like playing musical chairs or pass-the-parcel, a stop-start experience that is fun initially but which soon succumbs to the law of diminishing returns.

Which is a shame, because the programmers have gone to great lengths to keep the player stimulated visually. There is a load of Robocop-style on-screen data during the POV sequences, while the menu screens rank with the best there is in terms of snazzy zoom-in graphics and full-screen, full-motion fun.

Whether or not you should buy Thunder in Paradise Interactive depends entirely on whether or not you have the Peacekeeper light gun to go with it. If you have, then there's plenty of fun to be had, particularly if you play with a group of friends. Don't bother watching the full TV episode, though, unless you are a card-carrying masochist — it is so abysmal it makes "Baywatch" look like Shakespeare.

If you haven't got the gun, and don't intend to buy one, then avoid this game like the plague. Joypad controlled on-screen cursors are the video game equivalent of having your wisdom teeth pulled out — experiencing it once in a lifetime is one time too many.

RATINGS

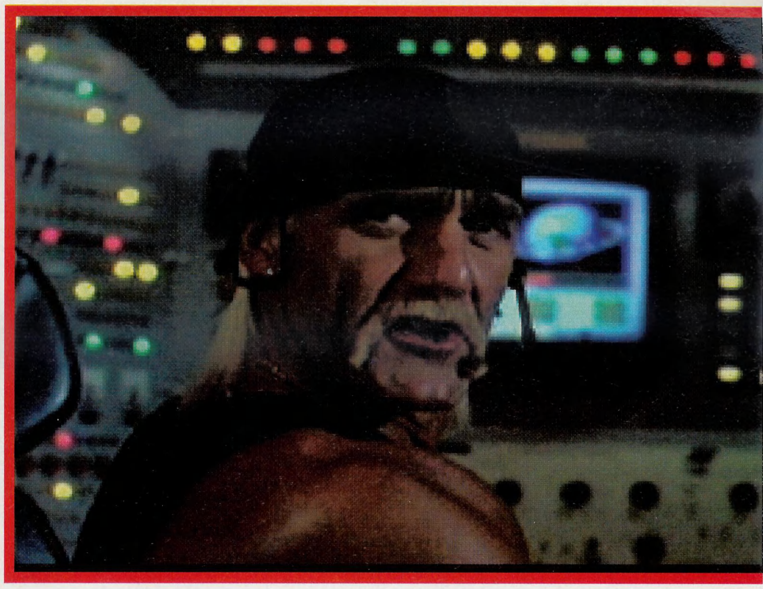
Graphics: 90%

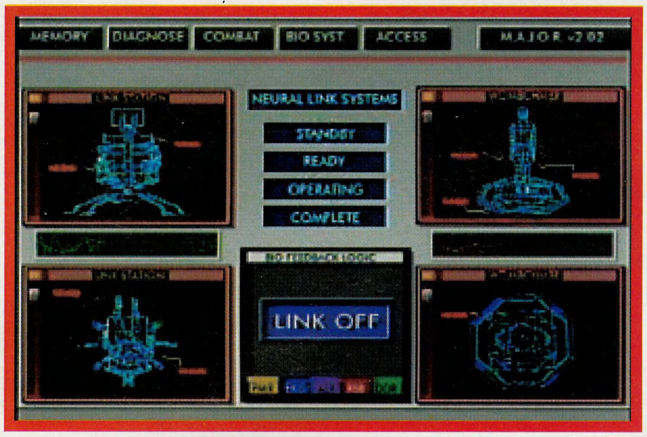
Sound: 90%

Interactivity: 77% (with gun)

Overall: 79%

Cost: £39.99 (excluding gun) Out: June 12

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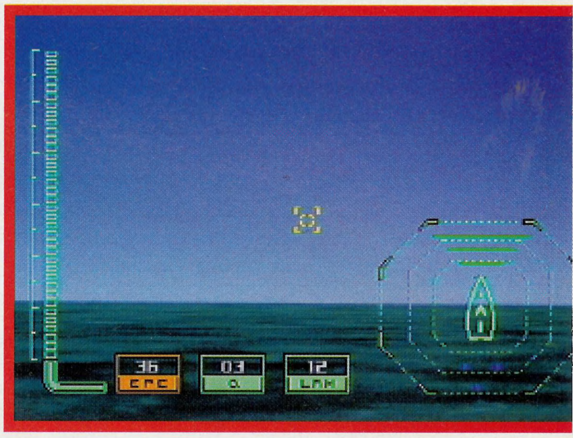
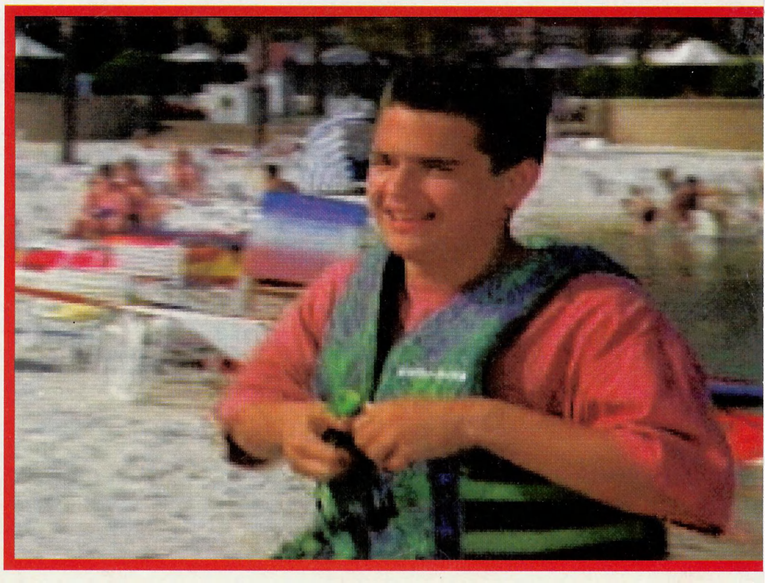
"The menu screens rank with the best there is in terms of snazzy zoom-in graphics and full-screen, full-motion fun"





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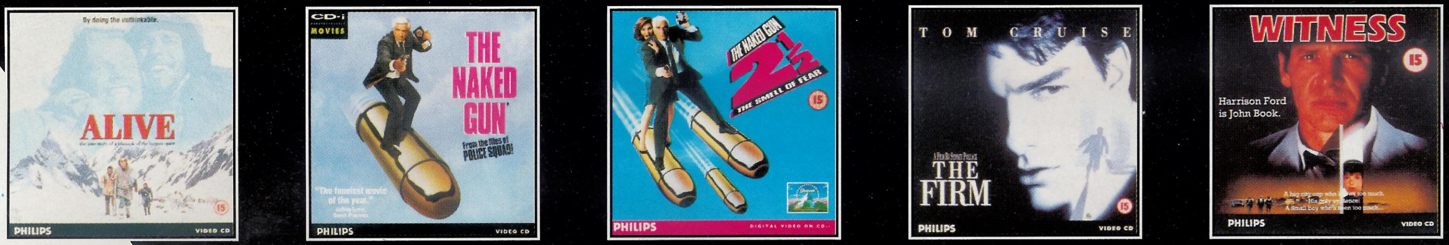
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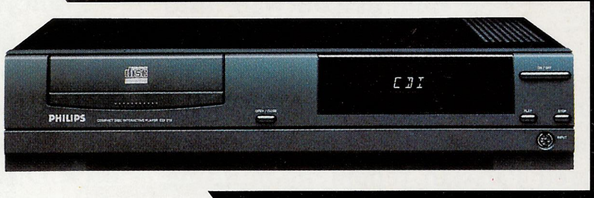

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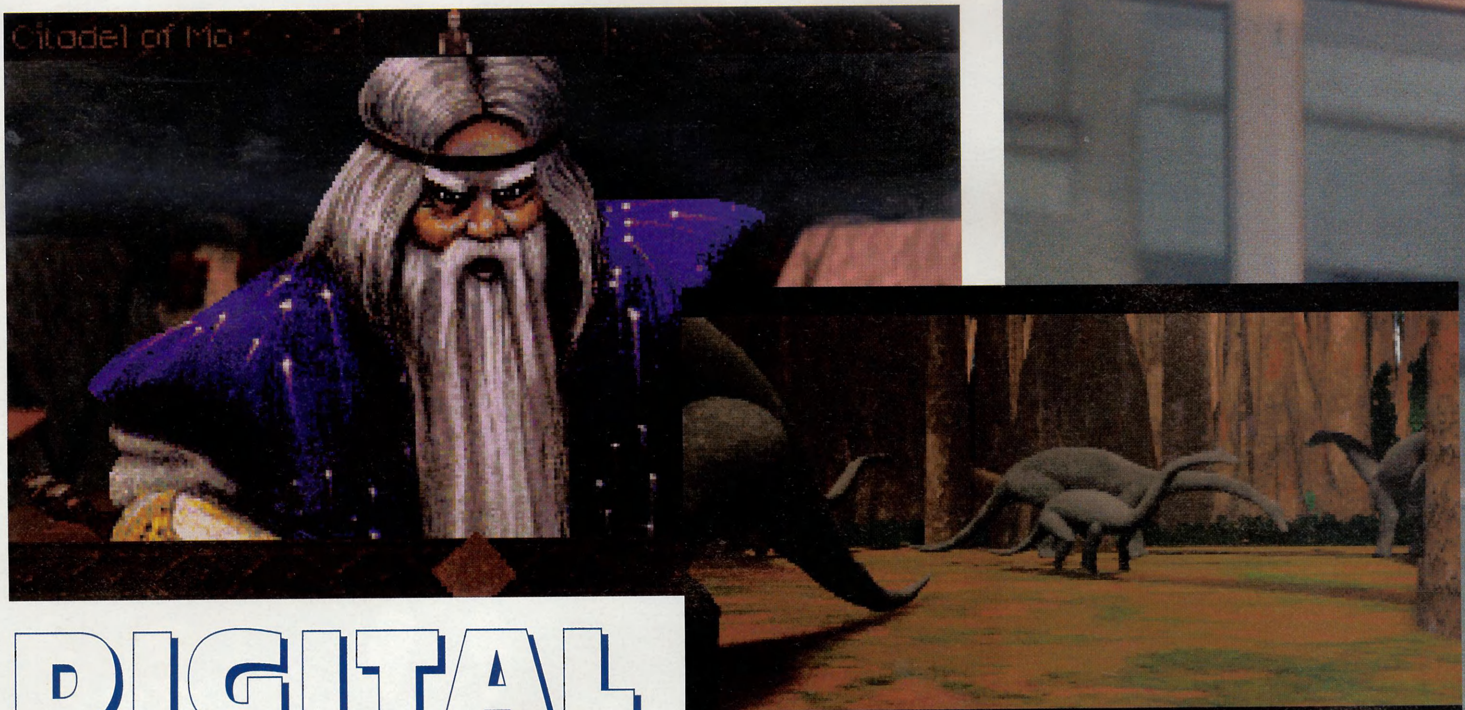
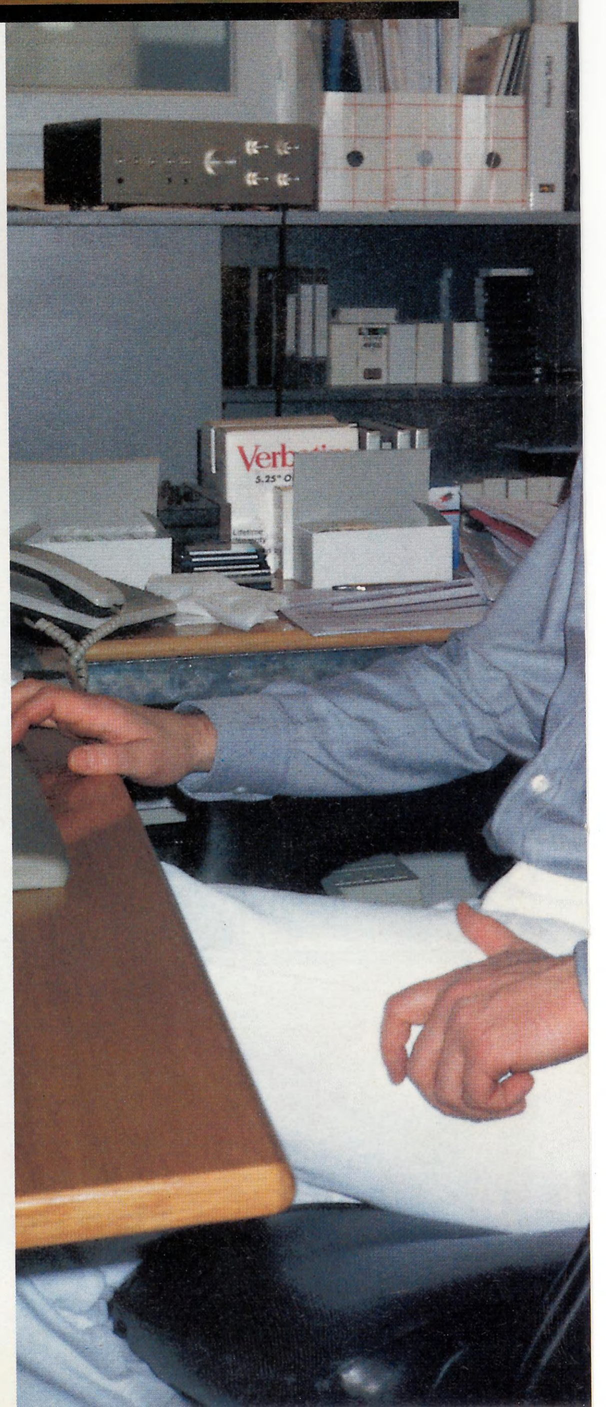


DIGITAL DINOSAURS

Cryo Interactive's dinosaur epic Lost Eden has just shipped on the PC and will be out this Autumn on CDi. ANDY STOUTOSAURUS talks to the team behind the game's development



As soon as you walk into the offices of Cryo Interactive you know that you are in a French company. The two floors they occupy of a converted Parisian tenement building are filled with a mixture of hi-tech and cigarette smoke; banks of PCs and overflowing ashtrays.

But it's the brief glimpses of the computer screens that catch your eye as you walk through the building that reveal the true talent that lies within. The French, as always, have *style*. Frighteningly realistic backdrops compete with beautifully, lovingly rendered animation sequences for your attention. Probably nowhere else in the world will you see such a concentration of programming alchemy brought to life with such skill and style.

France has spawned some of the leading graphics producers over the past couple of years, including Infogrames (the company responsible for Kether and Chaos Control on CDi) and now Cryo. With the shipping of Lost Eden on CD-ROM and its planned release on CDi, Cryo has raised the quality stakes once again.

Lost Eden is stunning, a primordial epic of man and dinosaur that features some of the most gorgeous MPEG sequences yet put on a disc. Pteranadons soar majestically over mountain lakes, brontosaurs lumber clumsily through swamps and tyrannosaurs stalk menacingly through the prehistoric landscape. It's detailed, it's beautiful and with the addition of music that wouldn't be out of place on a successful ambient

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> "We strongly believed that CD-ROM was going to be the next important medium"

album, incredibly atmospheric. It is also the latest success in Cryo's short history.

Cryo Interactive was formed at the end of the 1980s when current technical and artistic directors Remi Herbulot and Philippe Ulrich were working for a company called Ere Informatique. Ere was taken over by Infogrames, which at that time was distinctly cool about the prospect of developing games on CD-ROM, leaving the two men rather disillusioned.

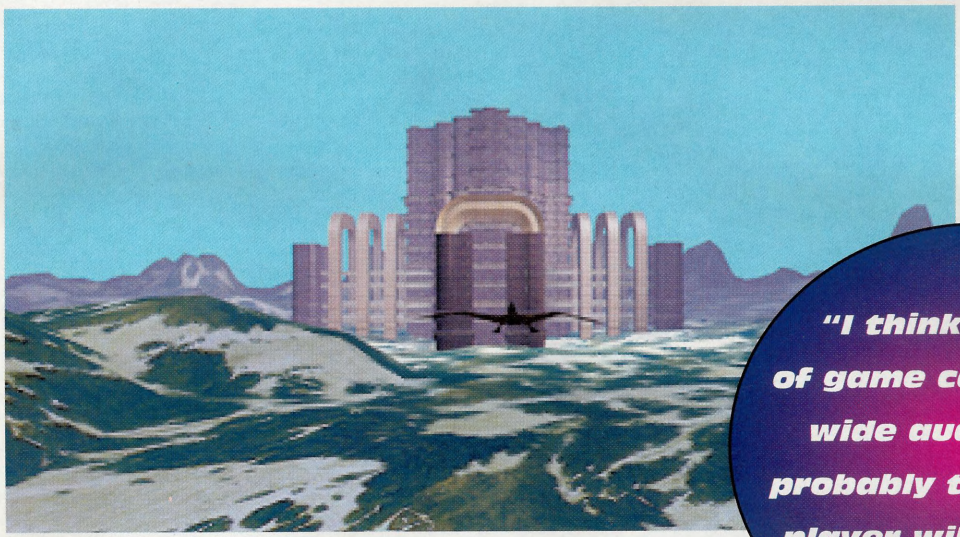
"We were not happy with the change," says Herbulot. "We did not feel very comfortable after the takeover and we strongly believed that CD-ROM was going to be the next important medium, but Infogrames at that time was not particularly interested in it. Because of that, we thought the best thing to do was to link up with another company which was involved in another media such as music."

The best contact the couple had at that time was with Jean Martial Le Franc, who was managing the French arm of Virgin Games. The three met and after a couple of meetings set up Cryo Interactive, with Le Franc as financial director.

"Our first game was Dune, and for one year that was the only game we had," says Herbulot. "Our second game was Megarace and that was very important to us as it was the first game we developed as a company that wasn't from Virgin. It was better for us to work for several publishers.

"Megarace was a game on which the visuals were very important. It's not as good as a pure game — there are better racing games and car simulations — but what we did was try to simulate a TV show. So we concentrated a lot on the full video and that's why it has also been successful. It's very spectacular, one of those games you can show to your friends to let them see how right you were to buy this expensive CD-ROM." ▶

Left: Cryo technical director Remi Herbulot at Cryo's Paris office (pictured above)



"I think this kind of game can attract a wide audience but probably the hardcore player will find it too simple"

▶ That concentration on the graphical nature of Cryo's games has certainly paid dividends with Lost Eden. But, as we all know, there is more to games than pretty pictures. Cryo's experience of the strategy/adventure environment they gained from Dune was reworked, rebalanced and tweaked for Lost Eden to try and produce a scenario that was more immersive.

"With Dune we tried to create a mixture between adventure and strategy so there was a little bit of each. But the most important element to me is the adventure. The first goal was to tell a story, to get the player caught up in the atmosphere of the game.

"We used Dune as a basis when we started Lost Eden. We removed everything that was not so good, kept the good things, and then developed them further to make an even better game. So in Lost Eden adventure is by far the most important aspect, with just a little bit of strategy. I want people to play Lost Eden and take from it some souvenir of remembrance, in the same way that you remember a good film. When you watch a film, you are immersed in the story for two hours and you are living with someone else on the screen. I'd like to give the player the same feeling."

The same thread runs through any conversation you have with Cryo; the feeling that the company is not just creating games but trying to involve the player in an artificial universe, trying to make the player forget that he's sitting in front of a computer or TV screen. But this has led to one of the main criticisms of Lost Eden, that it is lacking in the gameplay department.

"We did what we wanted to do," says Herbulot. "When I see people play Lost Eden I like the fact that the game appeals to people who are not that interested in computer games. I think this kind of game can attract a wide audience but probably the hardcore game player will find it too simple. If you want to spend 50 to 100 hours playing a game, you may be disappointed, but if you want to spend a couple of days playing it and getting into the story, you will like this game. I think Lost Eden is a good way of convincing people to play games on computers.

"Also, I've always wanted to create a game that is very simple to get into at the beginning so that people are not put off."

Another criticism levelled at Lost Eden is that it has simply jumped on the dinosaur bandwagon created by Stephen Spielberg's blockbuster film *Jurassic Park*. Is Cryo simply cashing in on Dinomania?

"The dinosaur idea was developed

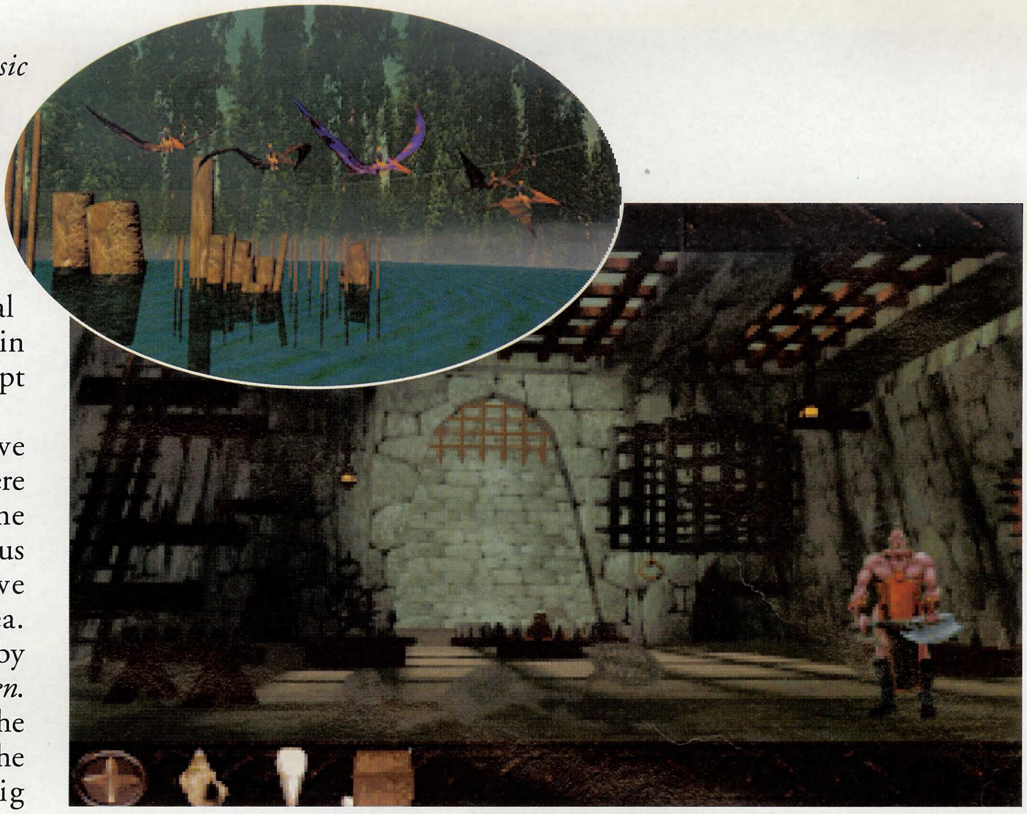
before we even knew about *Jurassic Park*," is Herbulot's practised and slightly weary reply. "Even before that film more and more people were talking about dinosaurs and it seemed to be good material because dinosaurs are like some kind of dream. They are not real now, but we know they existed in the past. You never see them except as drawings or skeletons.

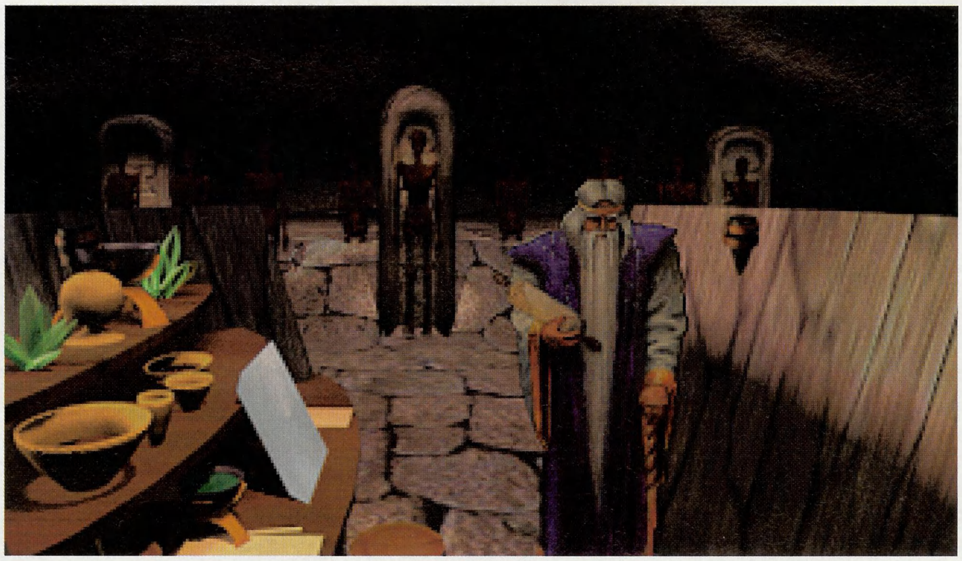
"I don't know exactly how we came up with the idea, but we were talking about doing another game after Dune and probably one of us talked about dinosaurs and we thought it would be a good idea. The first idea was to use a book by Harry Harrison called *West Of Eden*. I'd read the book but I didn't like the idea of basing the game on it. In the book, dinosaurs are simply big lizards, just human size, so we thought we would create an original story. We decided it would be more interesting to give the dinosaurs some intelligence."

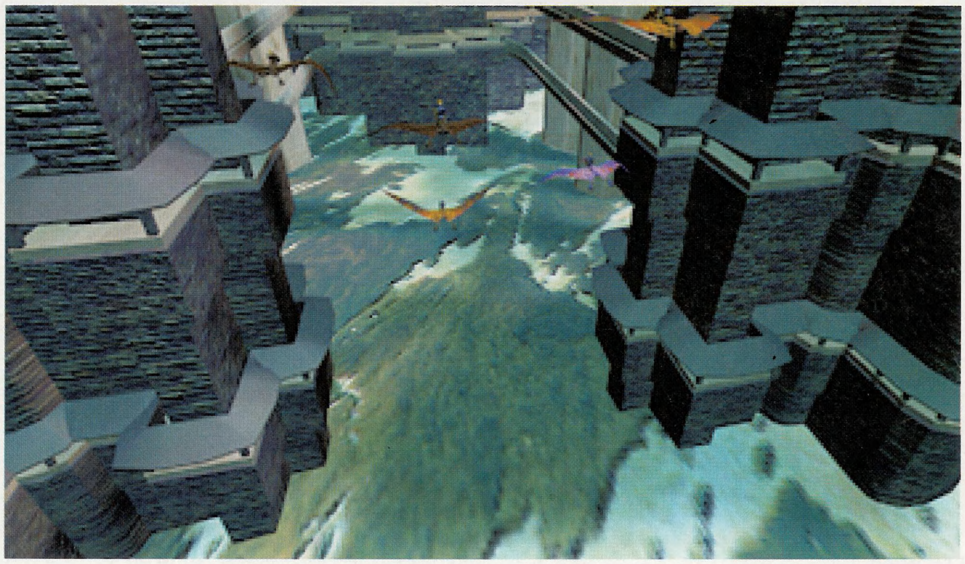
There is another thread to Cryo's general gameplan — the attention to detail in the basic plotline and the desire to create a decent universe to set the games in. A game is not going to suck the player into its own little world if it's bland, one-dimensional and full of inconsistencies.

"The basic storyline is that you have humans and dinosaurs on Earth and you are living in a strong citadel. Few people know that once there were many of these citadels on Earth and dinosaurs and humans were able to stand together against the tyrannosaur. The challenge is to find the secret of why there is only one citadel left and how you can build another one. You have to find the secret and go round the world to meet other humans and dinosaurs and work together with them."

All this is accomplished with in-depth characterisation and, as we said before, incredible graphics. Lost Eden took two years to develop and most of that time was spent in trying to perfect the graphics. The techniques and technology available ▶







evolved constantly, meaning that Cryo had to rework the graphics several times. Herbulot reckons that if they could do it all one more time, the results would be even better, but you have to stop somewhere.

However, some improvements will be incorporated into the CDi version, which many at Cryo believe will be the best yet. The CDi version is nearly completed, with just music, sound and some continuity between MPEG sequences and the gameplay environment to be finished off (just two weeks' work, apparently). The biggest obstacle Cryo came up against in converting the game from CD-ROM to CDi was having to upgrade all the graphics.

"The resolution is so different between the CDi and PC," Herbulot explains. "CDi MPEG video is so good there is no comparison between that and what we have on PCs. MPEG has 16 million colours. You can see the difference. And, of course, the sound is much better on CDi."

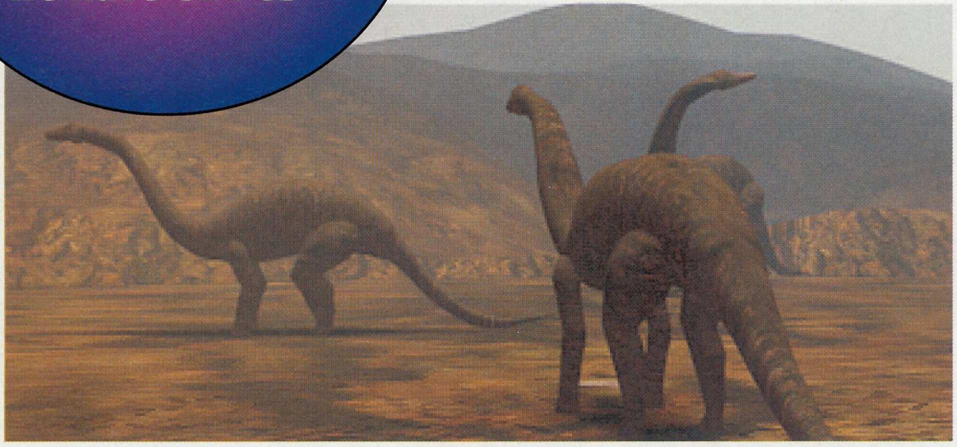
Herbulot is quietly impressed with CDi as a platform, mainly due to its MPEG capabilities. It has its problems, mainly the lack of sprites that can be generated at one time and the slow access speed of the CD drive, but beyond that Cryo didn't come across any major difficulties. But does Herbulot think the system can still succeed as a games platform in a market bracing itself for the imminent launch of the Sega Saturn and Sony PlayStation?

"Maybe. The main drawback is that you can see all the other platforms, such as Saturn and PSX, evolving. The problem with CDi is that the core of the hardware is still 16 bit, but if Philips can evolve CDi further and keep it backwards compatible with existing software, it might work. If the system remains exactly as it is, it will be struggling hard in one or two years' time." But that has not dampened Cryo's enthusiasm for the CDi platform. After Lost Eden, there will be at least another two CDi projects.

"We are doing a conversion of a coin-op game called Dead End which is a driving and shooting game that will use MPEG sequences. We also have another title called Man Before Man which is not really a game, more of an educational software title on the origin of man. We've tried to do this software with the same approach that we use for games."

What odds that this, too, will look spectacular?

"CDi MPEG video is so good there is no comparison between that and what we have on PCs"



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1. What is the name of Hulk Hogan's adopted daughter in Thunder in Paradise?

2.How many index references are there in the revised Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia?

3. Who knew all the secrets of the construction of the Citadel in Lost Eden?

Answer these 3 simple questions, the answers to which are all within this issue of CDi Magazine, complete the tie-breaker, and send your answers to: CDi Magazine, 38-42 Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0JE. The winners will be notified by post. The judges' decision is final. No correspondance will be entered into. Employees of Haymarket Publishing and Philips Media and their families are not eligible to enter.

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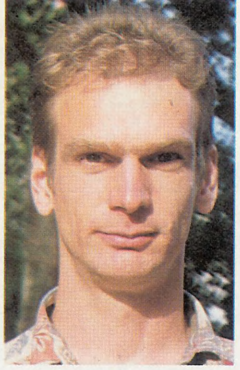


There's plenty of fun and games in store for Trekkers this summer, and romance and comedy too, says film critic BEN SOUTHWELL

STAR TREK III: THE SEARCH FOR SPOCK

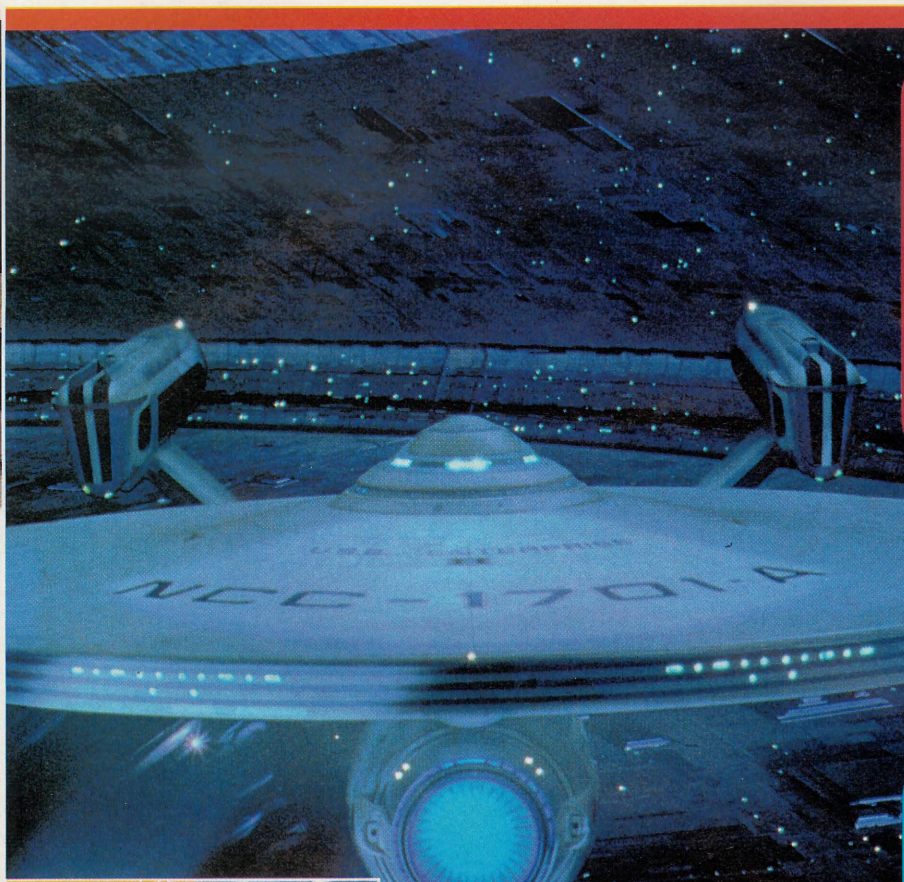
This is one of the more serious of the Star Trek films. Hardly surprising, really, when you consider that what's at stake is not just inter-planetary peace or the well-being of an alien race, but the very future of Mr Spock himself.

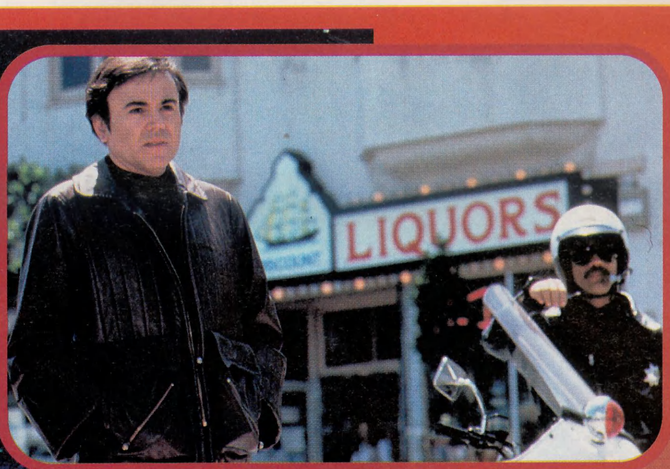
"The Search for Spock" picks up where Star Trek II left off. Kirk, in typically rebellious fashion, ignores orders and takes his beloved Enterprise and crew out into the universe to look for their missing colleague, dealing with a rogue Klingon along the way.

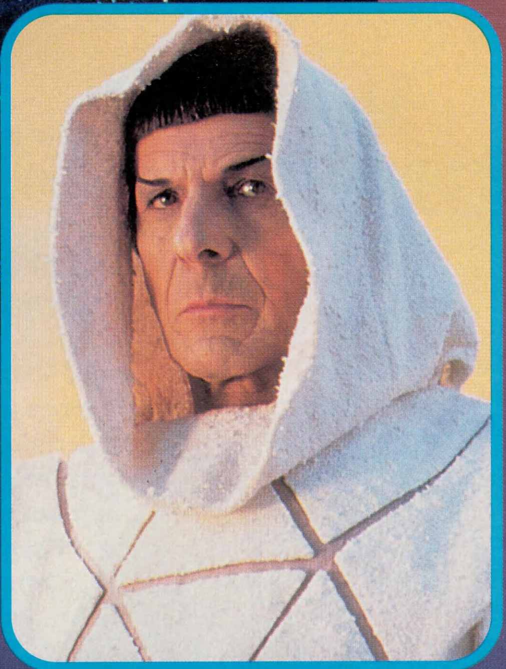
Apparently Leonard Nimoy wasn't very keen on a third film as Spock and it was only the offer of a shot at directing that persuaded him to take part once more. He makes a good job of it here and has since gone on to become a very successful director numbering "Star Trek IV" and "Three Men and a Baby" among his hits.

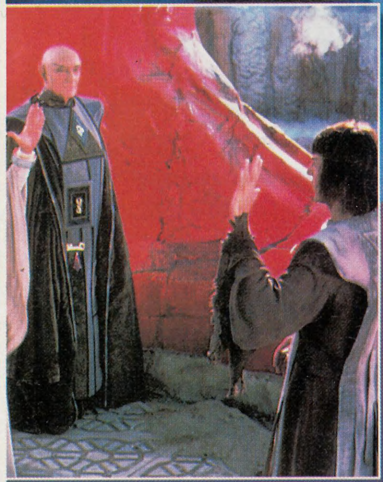
"The Search For Spock" may be a bit slow at times, but obviously it's an absolute must for Trekkers everywhere.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: very good
Cost: £17.99
Available: July 14









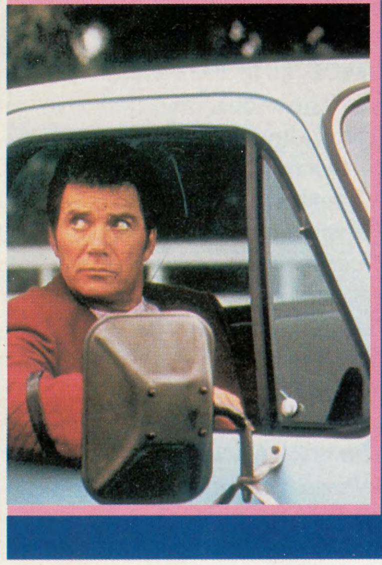
STAR TREK IV: THE VOYAGE HOME

One of the better Star Trek films, "Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home" has Kirk and the crew of the Enterprise returning to present day San Francisco to try to save the earth of the future with the help, believe it or not, of some humpback whales.

The second of the Trek films to be directed by Leonard Nimoy, "Voyage Home" milks every opportunity for humour that the idea of Kirk and Co in modern America presents (and that's plenty by the way). The result is great fun all the way through.

It's everything we've come to expect from Star Trek, right down to the timely ecological message of the storyline. And while it may not be in quite the same league as "Star Trek VI" (my favourite) it's still highly entertaining stuff.

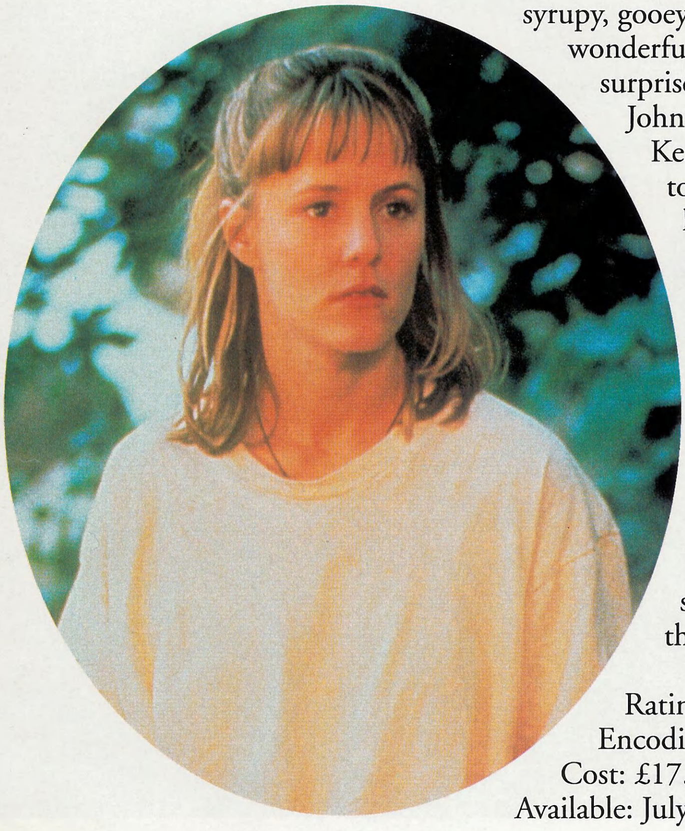
Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: very good
Cost: £17.99
Available: July 14



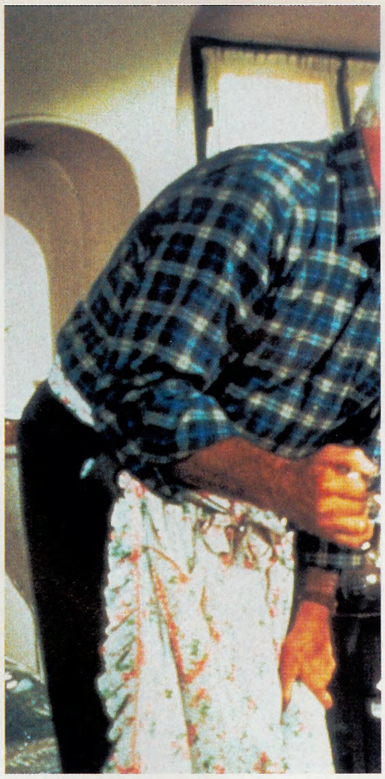
BENNY & JOON

If a romance between a young artist with a mental illness and a guy who believes he is Buster Keaton reincarnated sounds like a recipe for an unbearably syrupy, gooey tale — relax. "Benny & Joon" is a wonderfully light comedy that, if you let it, will surprise and captivate you.

Johnny Depp is excellent as Benny, the young Keaton wannabee. His mimicry and comic touch show qualities I, for one, never knew existed. His romance with Mary Stuart Masterson's painter is funny, touching and magical. Aiden Quinn does well with the rather thankless role of Joon's responsible older brother. So what if it descends into whimsy every now and then. "Benny & Joon" is out there on its own. Of course, it's hugely romanticised and totally unreal, but it's all done with such affection and lightness of touch, I couldn't help smiling — and there are far worse things the movies can do to you.



Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: very good
Cost: £17.99
Available: July 28

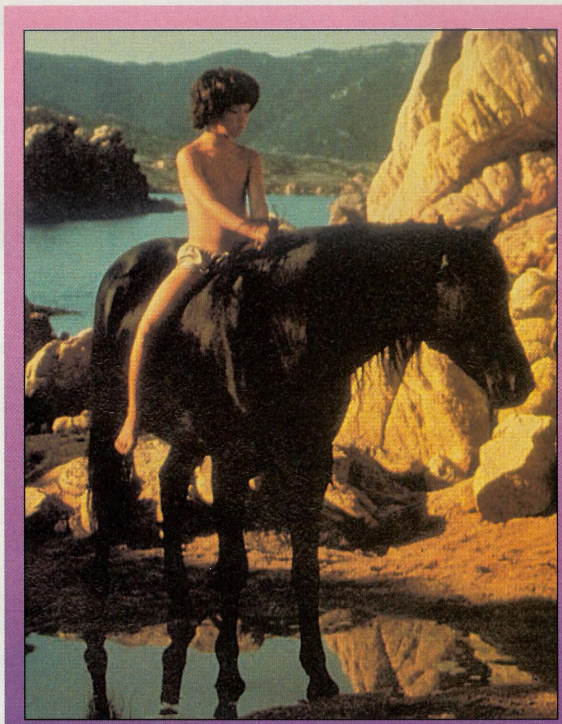


THE NAKED GUN 33 1/3

The third in the "Naked Gun" series from the makers of "Airplane" is a simultaneous release on Video CD and VHS. The publicity proudly proclaimed that "Naked Gun 33 1/3" contained "mostly new jokes", but unfortunately it's a joke that backfires as this movie is only fitfully funny and rather misses its aim. The movie opens with a pastiche of the baby carriage sequence from "The Untouchables" (itself a homage to Eisenstein's classic Odessa steps sequence) that is fairly amusing, but far from the comic invention that filled the first two films. The rest of "33 1/3" follows the same pattern: it's funny, but not that funny.

This time Drebin comes back from retirement to face one last case. He must foil a plot to blow up the Oscar ceremony (a self-referential device allowing for guest appearances by Raquel Welch, among others). Along the way, there are spoofs of "Thelma and Louise", "Jurassic Park" and even "The Crying Game". All the favourites from the earlier movies are back: Leslie Nielsen, Priscilla Presley, George Kennedy and, of course, OJ Simpson, but where there was madcap energy before, now everything just seems tired and over the top. It's time to hand in the badge.

Rating: ☆☆
Encoding: very good
Cost: £19.99
Available: June 5



BLACK STALLION

The wonderful and touching story of a boy and a black stallion, covering their growing friendship from a shipwreck to a racing championship. "The Black Stallion" captured hearts across America, and rightly so. It's a fine example of great family viewing. But it's more than a classic story. It's a beautifully made film with stunning cinematography. Mickey Rooney makes a welcome appearance as a veteran trainer, but all the performers contribute to the magic. At times the action sags, but on the whole it's a very moving and completely involving piece of storytelling. It was so successful that a sequel and a television series followed.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: very good
Cost: TBA
Out: July 14

RATINGS:
☆=poor
☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good
☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆=excellent

The films in this section are from Paramount Pictures, MGM/UA and PolyGram Video and require a Philips Digital Video cartridge, unless otherwise stated.

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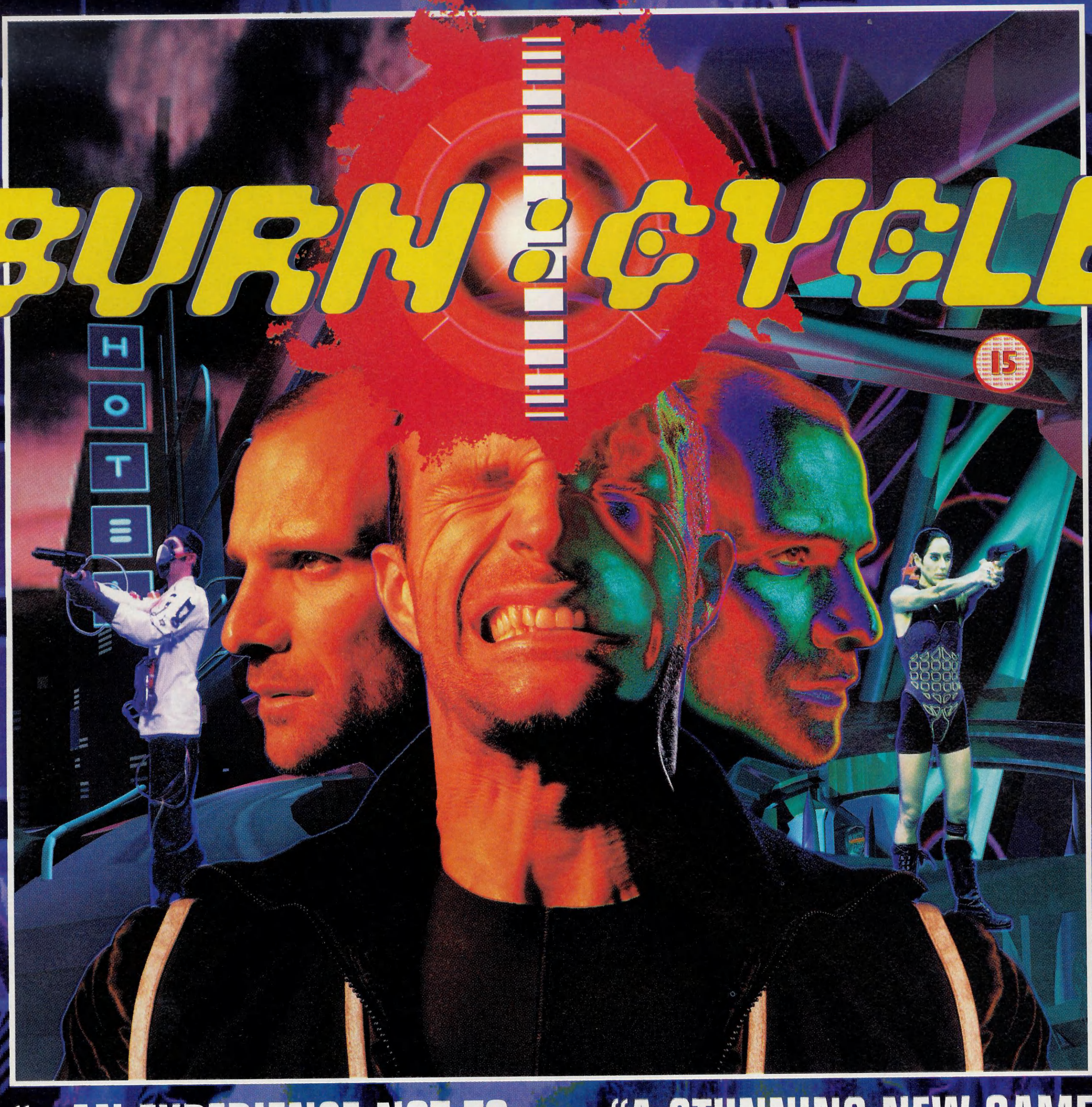

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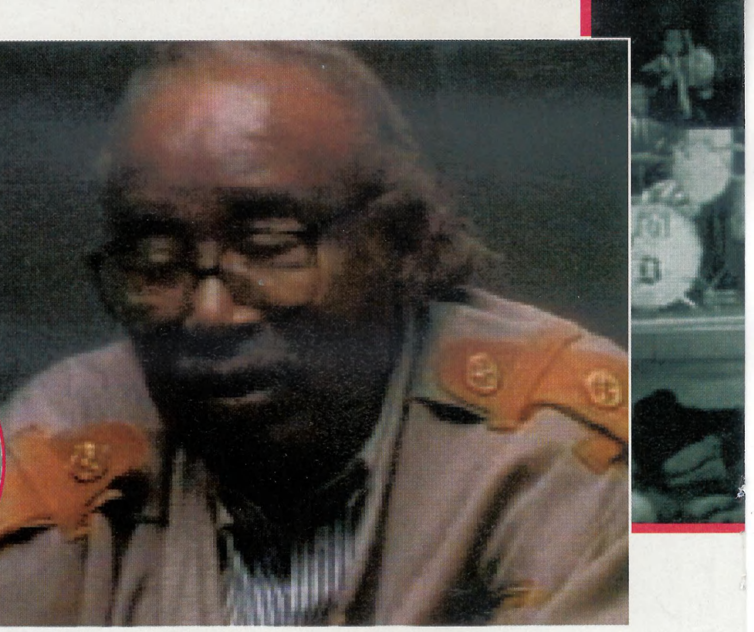
Jazz fans are in for a real treat this month. Relax, sit back and strut your funky stuff to the sound of the blues, says PATRICK BATEMAN



COUNT BASIE - SWINGING THE BLUES

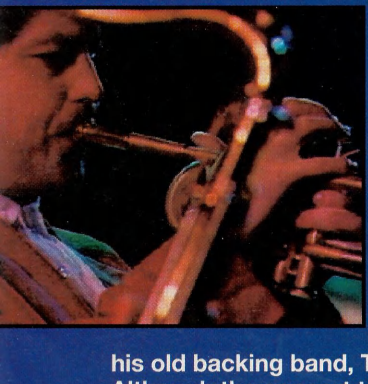
If you've always been put off listening to jazz because of an aversion to the avant garde, not to mention the atonal sounds of some of the modern strands of the music, then Count Basie is a great antidote. Because when push came to shove Basie didn't want you to sit back in cool admiration, he wanted you to get your funky ass up off that chair and dance. Basie took the blues, upped the tempo and created "Swing" – so-called because that's exactly what the music made you do.

This hour-long documentary does what you expect: it recounts the development of Basie's band and music from the backstreet bars of Kansas City to international success. As the Count himself is sadly no longer with us, the history is recalled by interviews with survivors from his band and the era. Even their names evoke the craziness of the times – imagine telling your local vicar that you were going to christen two toddlers Sweets Edison and Illinois Jacquet!

Sweets, Illinois and a host of other codgers reminisce about the glory days of Count Basie and Swing and their technicolour memories are backed up by reels of monochrome footage from the 1940s and 1950s. A full 60 years on, the magnetism of Basie and the foot-tapping appeal of his music still cut through the often hazy video and hissy sound. This seems to be the fault of the ageing master tapes rather than the quality of the MPEG encoding, as the modern footage is fine.

It's not a definitive history of Count Basie

GEORGIE FAME AND THE BLUE FLAMES



Another 1960s relic attempts a comeback. This time it's Georgie "Yeh Yeh" Fame whose catalogue of toe-tapping jazz-pop standards includes "Yeh Yeh", "Get Away" and "The Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde". This concert was filmed at London's Flamingo Club some time in the late 1980s (the sleeve notes or credits aren't particularly comprehensive) and reunites Georgie with his old backing band, The Blue Flames. Although the concert took place not long ago, the filming marks a throwback to the dim and distant days of the 1970s – all low-rent screen titles, static and uninspiring camera angles and a very sparse set. In terms of visual excitement it makes "The Old Grey Whistle Test" look like "The Word".

But long-term fans of Georgie Fame will insist it is the music that matters, and this ten-strong set does deliver some outstanding tracks. Strangely, it's the cover versions of "Moondance" and "Big Brother" that come across best – possibly because they are tributes to Fame's two biggest influences, Van Morrison and Mose Alison.

That said, throughout the set Fame proves that his two best assets – his smoky voice and silky keyboard playing – have more than stood the test of time. (On "Rocking Chair" he even managed to whistle perfect pitch.)

However, for all his musical brio, Fame has never been particularly good at the on-stage shenanigans needed to keep the audience at fever pitch. During some of his mumbling introductions the words "charisma" and "bypass" suddenly spring to mind, although when he stops talking and starts singing things soon recover.

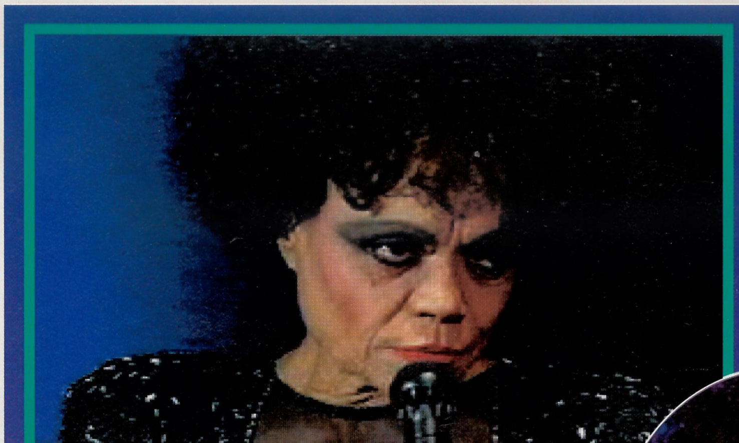
The video encoding is acceptable though by no means outstanding (there are swarms of on-screen mosquitoes in several sequences, for instance) and for some reason the audio soundtrack

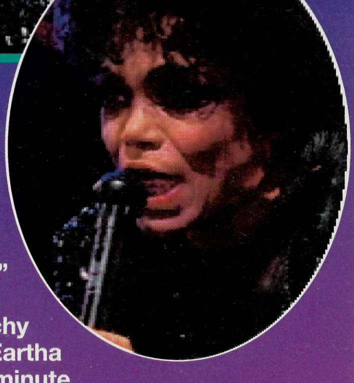
and the development of Swing – for one thing there's very little about the socio-political context of the music and performers within the still very racist and segregated US culture of the time. But it is a feel-good, toe-tapping, whistle-stop tour of some of the most infectious music of the 20th century.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Encoding: average
Cost: £14.99 Available: now
Contact: CD Vision 0181 503 0589

is mono only. There is an attractive menu screen, though, and CD Vision has also found a way to mark the beginnings of songs without imposing an irritating two-second blackout on those who watch the concert from start to finish (for example, the early Philips music discs such as Bon Jovi and Pink Floyd). Overall, this is a disc for the Fame fan or jazz completist, not your everyday punter. If you fall into either of the former camps it's probably worth buying, but the lack of a stereo soundtrack is a serious flaw.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: average
Cost: £14.99
Available: now Contact: CD Vision



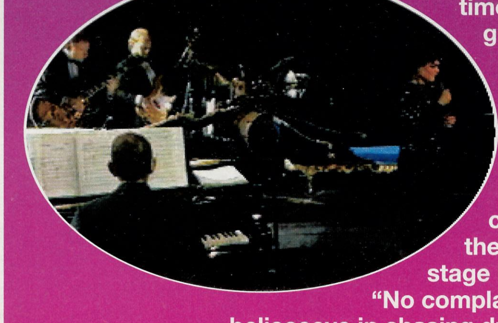


EARTHA KITT - THE MOST EXCITING WOMAN IN THE WORLD

The most exciting woman in the world" was Orson Welles' description of raunchy black blues singer Eartha Kitt. And after watching this 60-minute Video CD it is hard to muster up the energy, let alone the inclination, to argue.

It's a breathless, effortless, swooping, sensual, light-hearted, brilliant accomplishment of a performance from Miss Kitt, which makes a mockery of her OAP status. She has the audience and this reviewer wrapped around her well-preserved little finger as she switches mood and tempo between rattling bebop standards such as "I Want To Be Evil" and "Here's To Life" to soulful, emotionally-fired ballads such as "All By Myself".

The voice is as earthy and arresting as ever – when Miss Kitt sings about love and passion it's as if someone has taken a sheet of honeyed sandpaper and started rubbing it gently into the erogenous zones of your mind. She's helped, of course, by a pristine backing band that matches her mercurial twists and turns heartbeat for heartbeat.



The well-produced digital soundtrack of the Video CD, which is full stereo this time, means that every blues guitar riff, every syncopated drum beat and every tinkle of the ivories is recreated in its original glory.

The picture quality is less impressive, though, with plenty of visual artefacts and colour smears (often caused by the lurid and constantly changing stage lights).

"No complaints and no regrrrrets I still belieeeeve in chasing dreams and placing bets. But I've learned that all you give is all you get, so I'll give it aaawwwlll I've got!" sings Eartha in the final reprise of "Here's To Life". It's the perfect end to a near perfect performance. Bravo.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆
Encoding: average
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Sex, wives and Video CD – ANDY STOUT reviews the recent batch of helpful and educational sex manuals

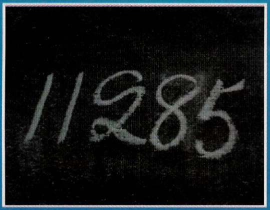
What does he mean?
– It's very simple

18

I AM CURIOUS YELLOW

Released in 1967, this Swedish film shot in grainy black and white reputedly exposes the hypocrisy of Swedish society as a young girl with a microphone bumbles around asking people questions. It allegedly caused outrage when it was first released.

This film (if you can call it that) has been picked up and is being flogged by adult video specialist Jezebel due to its "explicit sex scenes". Apart from the occasional tame fumbling, it's a woeful mix of 1960s radicalism, "revolutionary" (ie bad) film techniques and an insipid plot. And it's incredibly pretentious too. I Am Bored — Rigid.



Rating: zero
Encoding: average
Cost: £17.99
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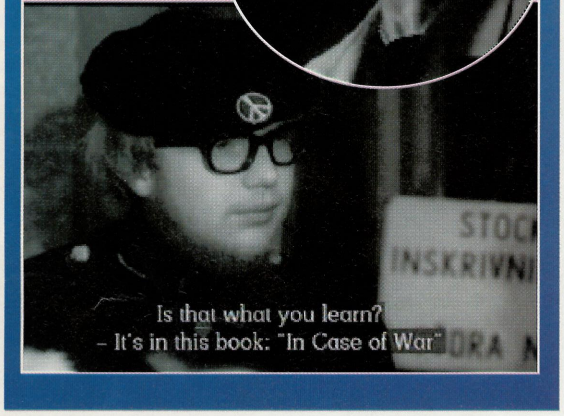
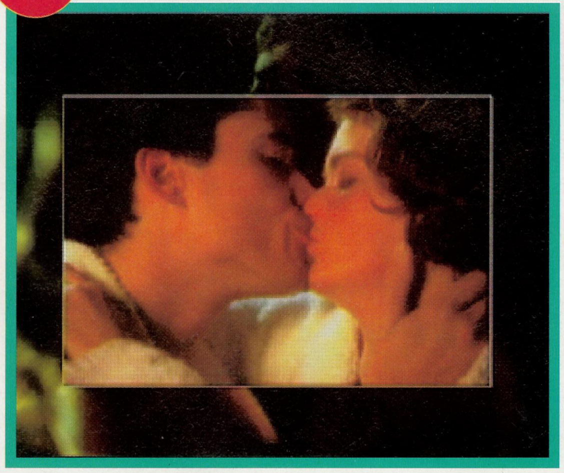

STOC
INSKRIVN
ORA N
Is that what you learn?
– It's in this book: "In Case of War"

MAKING LOVE

18

Given the recent proliferation of this sort of educational sex video, a lot of debate has centred around whether they are truly "educational" or porn dressed up to appear respectable in a decade of political correctness.

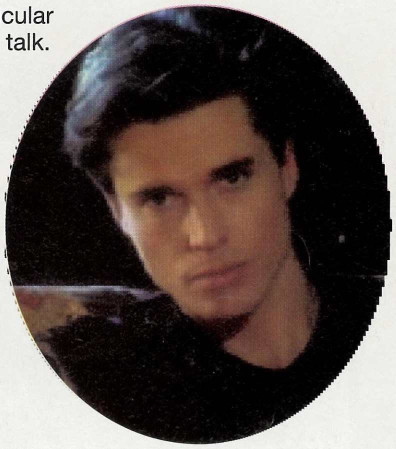
Any answer is bound to be subjective, but only the Mary Whitehouse brigade will classify this disc as pornographic. Erotic, yes — but as the aim is to help improve sexual communication between couples, it would be surprising in the extreme if that was not the case.



"Making Love" features real couples filmed in a studio talking about, and having, sex. Unlike the earlier "Joy of Sex" on CDi, there are no actors involved. This is for real.

It's not dry, scientific stuff (ie: "the G-spot is located at an angle of 35 degrees from the perpendicular and about 50mm in) but warm, emotional talk. Nor is it sex portrayed as some sort of impossible Hollywood dream; it's about sex as people actually have it. Heavens, there's even a couple who giggle all the way through (well, wouldn't you if there was a cameraman in the bedroom?).

This sort of disc is invaluable. It won't turn anyone into a sexual athlete, neither will it turn anyone into a demon lover, but it might help bring people closer together. And if that means more people having good sex lives, then that's fine by me.



Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Encoding: excellent
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Available: now
Contact: PolyGram Video 0181 910 5000

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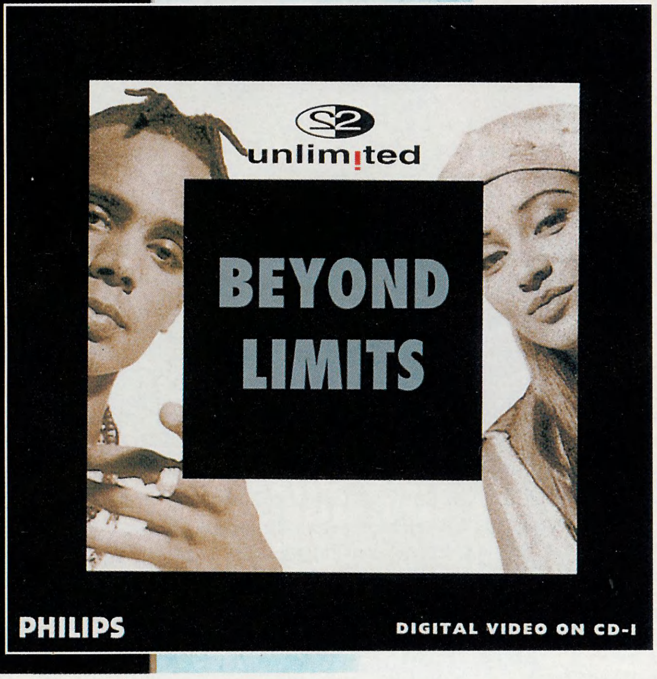
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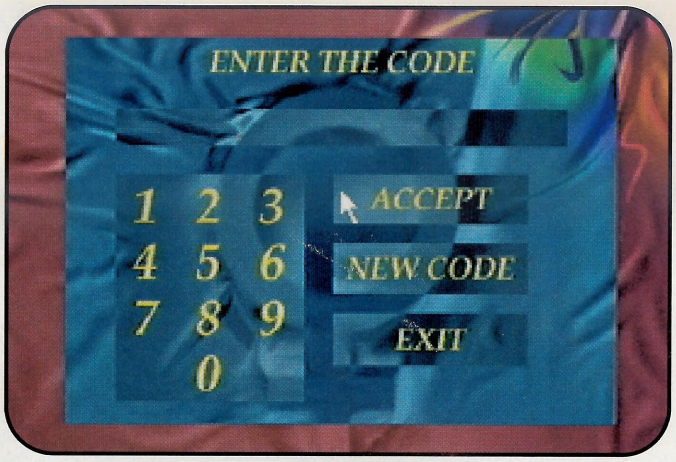


18

LOVING FOR A LIFETIME

Is there no end to the number of sex manuals being produced on CDi? First we had "The Joy of Sex", then came "Making Love" from PolyGram Video (see review, page 37) and now we have "Loving For A Lifetime" from Valkieser Multimedia in Holland.

Well, we all realise the Dutch know a thing or two about sex, don't we? But does this disc really offer anything radically different? No, not really. It's all very well meaning, of course, and there are two helpful doctors to guide you through this "therapy programme". Disc one of this two-disc set covers sexual problems; disc two is more focussed on enriching people's sex lives. (Haven't we heard that somewhere before?) We only had disc one to preview, which contains four "themes": the sexual response system, the erection, premature ejaculation and the female orgasm. Disc two covers massage, oral sex, the extended sexual menu and safe sex. Each "theme" is sub-divided into a range of topics you can choose from. Just in case you are worried about children watching the disc, there is a lockout code to prevent them from doing so (which you can change if necessary).

The two sexologists — one American, one Belgian — will soothingly guide you through numerous sexual problems. Then a male and female model will demonstrate each topic. There is some fairly graphic full motion video, so this is not a disc for the timid or easily embarrassed.

But compared to "Making Love", which features real couples talking about sex, this disc is a little clinical for my tastes. Worthy, yes. Helpful, almost certainly. Educational, undoubtedly. What it lacks is an element of fun. Given the choice of software available in this field, assess some of the other titles first before choosing which to buy.

Produced by Valkieser Multimedia (Please note: this is a Green Book Digital Video title and not White Book Video CD).

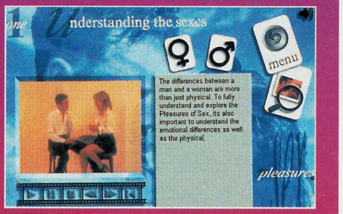
Rating: ☆☆☆ Cost: £34.99 Encoding: excellent Available: July 28
Contact: Philips Media 0171 911 3000

THE PLEASURES OF SEX

Telstar Electronic Studios has formed a new adult label, called TF&G, to produce interactive adult titles on CDi and CD-ROM. The first release, due out at the end of May, is "The Pleasures of Sex". It contains an hour of explicit full motion video and covers every physical and emotional aspect of sex. There is also a section on sexually transmitted diseases. The film footage is combined with still photographs and around 250,000 million words of text. There is an interactive questionnaire which builds up a profile of each individual user. A question and answer session deals frankly and clearly with some of the most common sexual problems.

Telstar managing director Mark Livingstone says: "The Pleasures of Sex is innovative and explicit, but delivers important messages to mature couples about sex in the1990s."

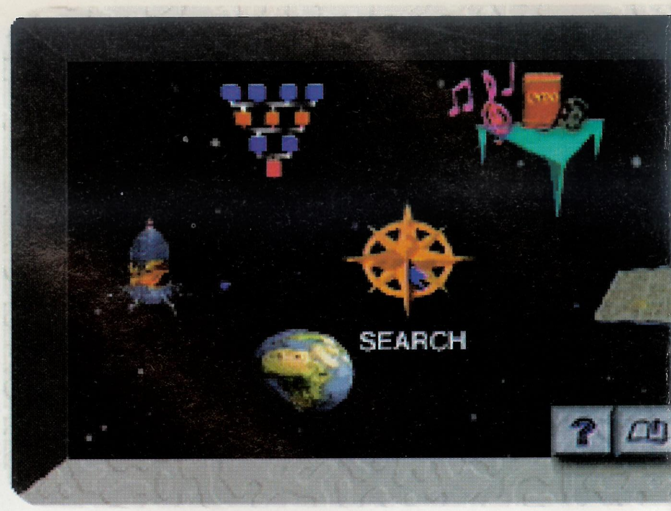
The second release from Telstar will be "Vegas Girls". For further details, contact Telstar Electronic Studios on 01932 222232.



The differences between a man and a woman are more than just physical. To fully understand and explore the Pleasures of Sex, its also important to understand the emotional differences as well as the physical.

Philips has at last developed a Digital Video version of Compton's Encyclopedia. ANDY CLOUGH takes a sneak preview

COMPTON'S INTERACTIVE ENCYCLOPEDIA



Above: revised graphics for the main screen menu. Opposite: Compton's on CDi gives you access to still Photo CD images and full motion video clips of historic events, such as the first Space Shuttle launch and President Kennedy's assassination

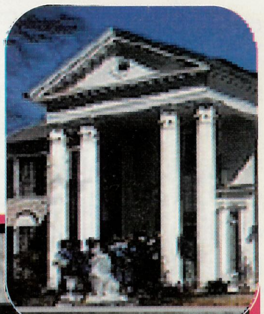
Above: video footage of the Los Angeles earthquake, now captured on CDi

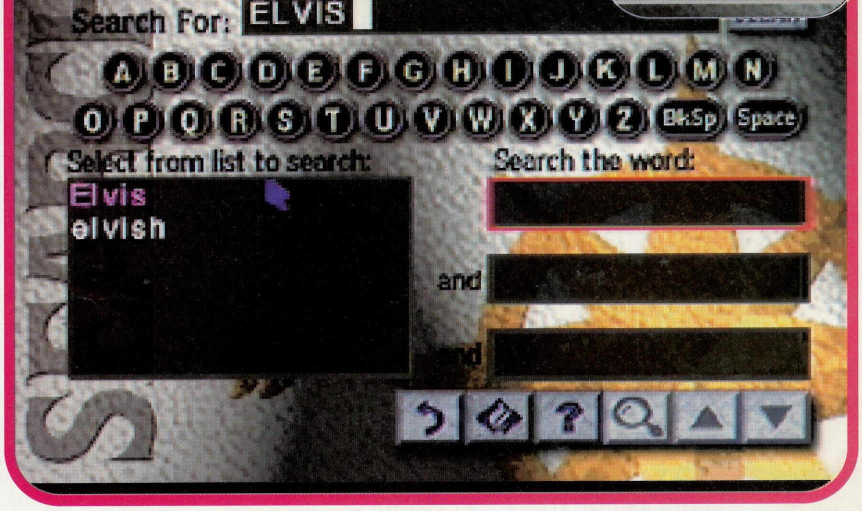
Interactive encyclopedias are not new, and the original CDi version of Compton's has been around for a couple of years. Now Philips has decided to update it and has produced a revised, Digital Video version for 1995.

Compton's Updated and Revised is similar in many ways to the original, but has been updated with new graphics, an audio help function, a new time machine and a bookmark feature to make it easier to use. The main menu gives you six options to choose from: search, atlas, dictionary, contents, topic tree and time machine. The simplest way to use the disc is to select "search" and key in the name of the item you wish to find. The CDi player will then do the rest. Alternatively, if you go to the topic tree you will be given a list of categories to choose from, such as The Arts, History or Government. Select a category, and then choose the item within it that you want.

Scrolling through the items on the disc is fairly simple, if sometimes a little slow, but the choice of articles, photographs and videos is bewildering. There are 1,622 pages of the 26 volume printed set of the encyclopedia, with 530 new and revised main-text articles and more than 112,500

Below: Elvis's mansion, Gracelands, in Photo CD. Bottom: use the simple search function to find any article




A B C D E F G H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z BkSp Space
SEARCH

Search For: ELVIS

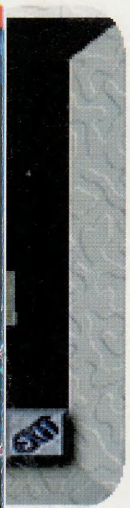
Select from list to search:

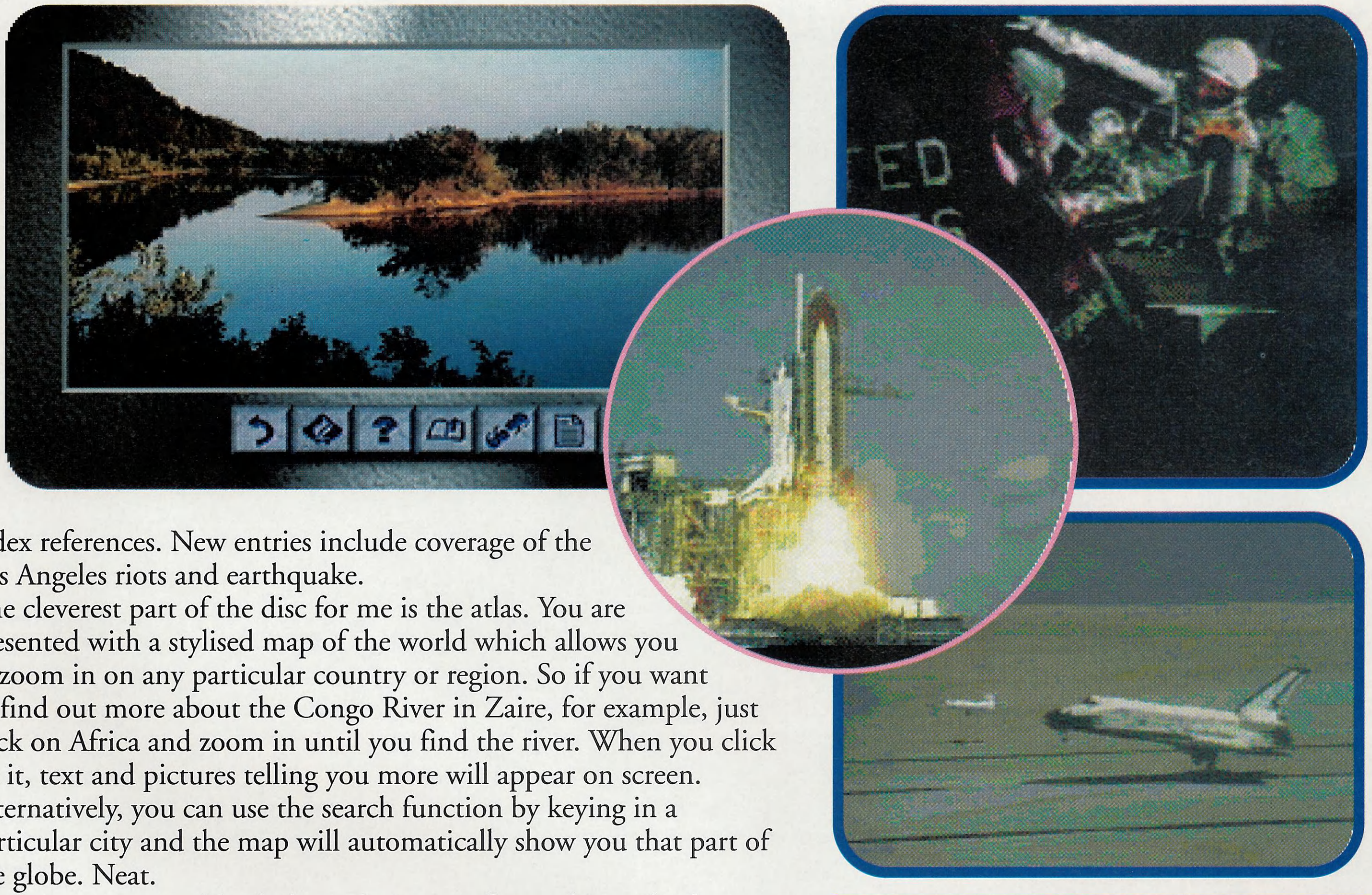
Elvis
elvish

Search the word:

and

and





index references. New entries include coverage of the Los Angeles riots and earthquake.

The cleverest part of the disc for me is the atlas. You are presented with a stylised map of the world which allows you to zoom in on any particular country or region. So if you want to find out more about the Congo River in Zaire, for example, just click on Africa and zoom in until you find the river. When you click on it, text and pictures telling you more will appear on screen. Alternatively, you can use the search function by keying in a particular city and the map will automatically show you that part of the globe. Neat.

If you want to travel back through time, or forward into the future, just use the time machine. This has been modified with improved graphics and controls. Use the cursor to take you back through the centuries and find out what happened all those years ago.

Of course, the biggest novelty of the 1995 version of Compton's is the inclusion of full motion video. This improvement is long overdue. Whenever a movie camera appears alongside the text, just click on it to access the relevant video clip. You can now watch such historic events as President Kennedy's assassination, the first Space Shuttle launch or some very early TV programmes in full screen video. Ever since Philips invented the DV cartridge, this is one particular innovation that Compton's has been crying out for.

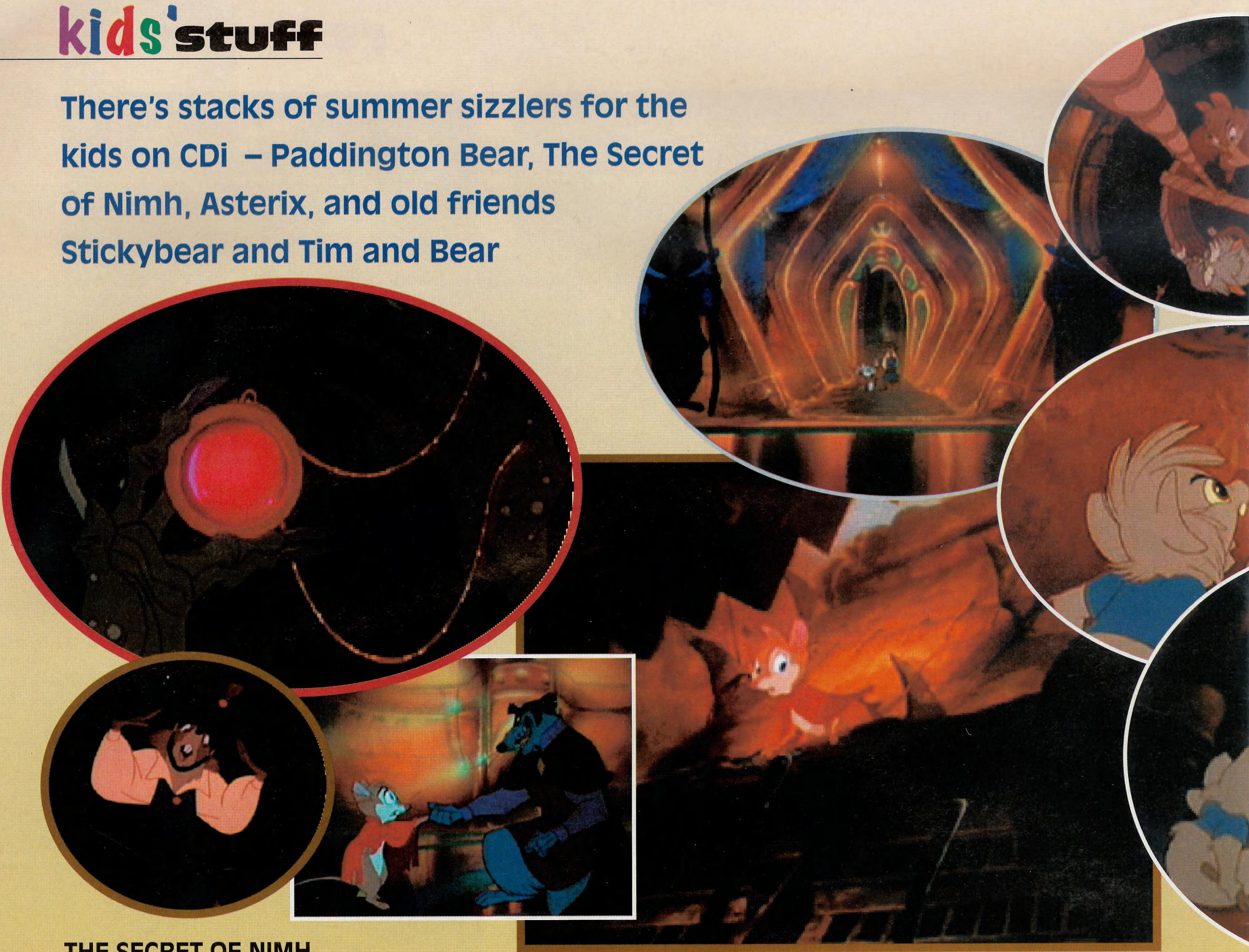
It is long overdue and makes an already informative title even more entertaining.

Produced by Compton's New Media

Rating:☆☆☆
Cost: TBA
Available: September

RATINGS:
☆=poor ☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good ☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆☆=excellent

There's stacks of summer sizzlers for the kids on CDi – Paddington Bear, The Secret of Nimh, Asterix, and old friends Stickybear and Tim and Bear



THE SECRET OF NIMH

This first feature film by ex-Disney animator Don Bluth has all the hallmarks that made his Disney animation so great, but none of the sugar and spice, "cutesy" characters you tend to find in a lot of kids' movies these days.

The animals are realistic in the Secret of Nimh — the mice are timid, the shrew is, well, shrew-like and the rats are definitely fierce! The film is a classic adventure story where good battles with evil and the good guys win.

Timid, widowed field mouse Mrs Brisby struggles against the odds to save her home and family from destruction by the giant monster — in the shape of the farmer's tractor — while nursing her sick son.

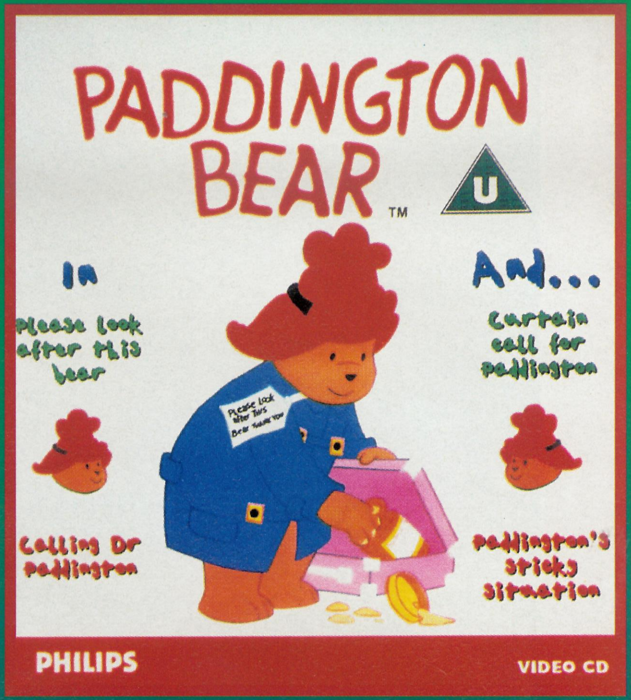
It's a simple tale, but along the way Mrs Brisby must enlist the help of Mr Aegis the mouse scientist, the Great Owl, whom no-one ever sees, and not forgetting Nicodemus, King of the Rats of Nimh. Add to that dodging Dragon the farm cat, and keeping out of the way of Jeremy the Crow (who means well but is so accident-prone he is more of a hindrance), and you have all the ingredients for a nailbiting adventure — a sort of animal Indiana Jones.

During the course of her adventures, Mrs Brisby learns the Secret of Nimh, which is carte blanche for Don Bluth to come up with some excellent animation effects deep in the bowels of the earth. Basically, the Rats of Nimh have escaped from an animal experimentation lab, but not before they were injected with a substance that made them intelligent. (Their underground town is complete with electricity, syphoned off from the farmer).

The story is told from Mrs Brisby's point of view, which means that our world and most of the other animals are quite terrifying to her, but her journey to save her family is also a journey of discovery. She changes from a timid creature into a courageous one, who eventually saves the rats — who help her move her house out of the way of the tractor — as her husband did before her.

The Secret of Nimh is a charming film, beautifully executed, that keeps you gripped to the end — a film for all the family. Oh! and the next time a field mouse scurries across my kitchen floor, I won't be scared — I'll just think Mrs Brisby is off on another of her adventures.

Rating: ✓✓✓✓
Cost: £14.99 Out: July 14

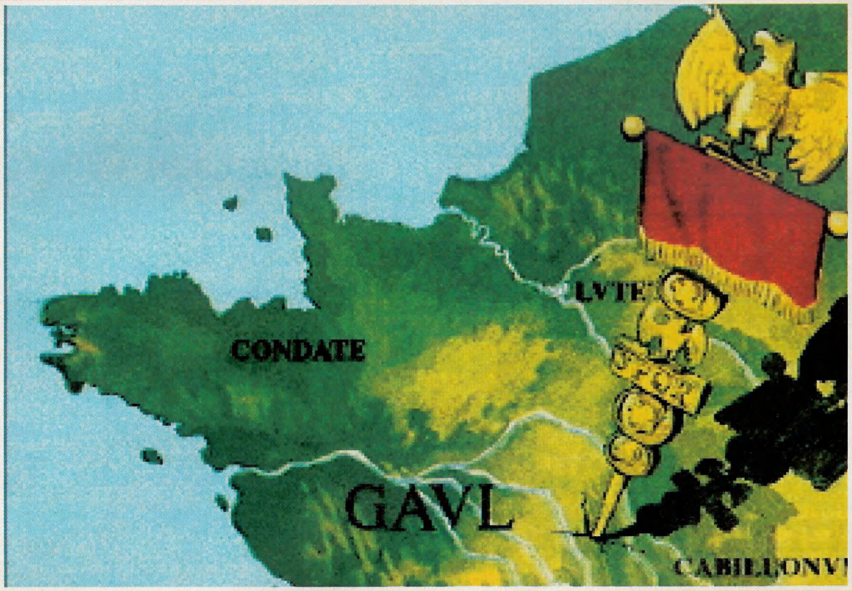

PADDINGTON BEAR ™
U
In
Please look after this bear
Calling Dr Paddington
And...
Curtain call for Paddington
Paddington's sticky situation
Please look after this bear thank you
PHILIPS
VIDEO CD

PADDINGTON BEAR

The loveable character of Paddington Bear, created by Michael Bond, has been a favourite for children of all ages for more than 30 years.
Now, for the first time, he speaks in this two disc (four episode) set on Video CD. The four episodes are: Curtain Call For Paddington, Paddington's Sticky Situation, Please Look After This Bear and Calling Dr Paddington. Kids will delight in seeing Paddington cause mayhem when staying with the Brown family, or masquerading as a doctor when he visits a neighbour in hospital. Alternatively, you can watch him in the marmalade factory or on centre stage with a leading lady.

Rating: ✓✓✓✓
Cost: £17.99
Available: June 23

RATINGS:
✓=poor
✓✓=average
✓✓✓=good
✓✓✓✓=very good
✓✓✓✓✓=excellent



ASTERIX: CAESAR'S CHALLENGE

If you are a fan of Asterix and his merry band, then this is the CDi for you. The intrepid characters from the popular French comic books star in this interactive board game in which you, the Gauls, must defeat Caesar.

The wicked Romans have occupied Gaul and only your village remains unscathed. The object is to venture into the Roman empire, collect a souvenir from each place you visit, and return safely home.

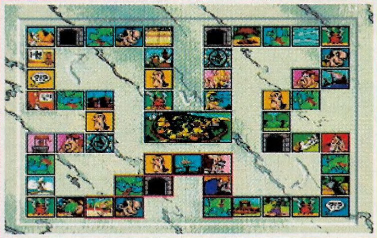
As the player, you take the part of one of a select band of characters, including Asterix, Obelix, Geriatrix and Impedimenta. You can play on your own against the CDi player, or other "human" players. The main board is divided into different squares: country, ordeal, prison, magic potion, rest, traps, surprises and "meet character" squares.

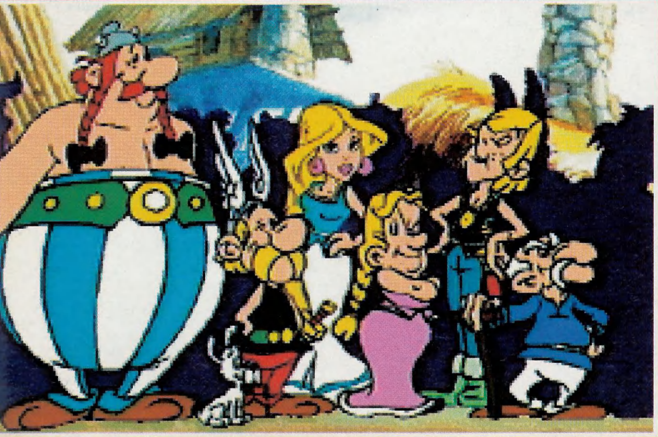
Throughout the game you will be guided by Gedifix the Druid who doles out the magic potion, which can come in handy. Once you have chosen your character, you can set the level at which you wish to play (easy, average or hard) and the length of the game (30/60/90 or 120 minutes). The longer the game, the more objects you have to collect.

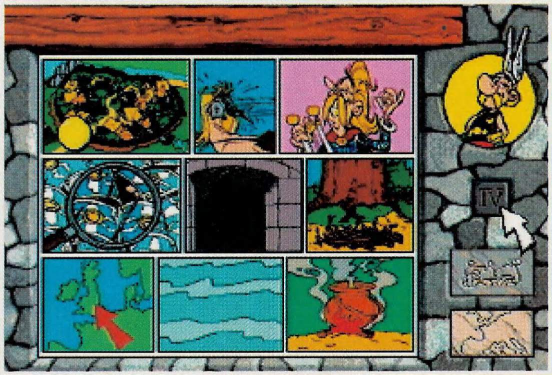
Beginning is simple. Just place the cursor on the electronic dice and press an action button. The "dice" will spin until you press the action button again. Your character will then automatically be moved the given number of squares on the board. If you land on a country square, you will be asked a question and have to choose from one of the three options given. Get it right and you will win a souvenir to take back home with you.

Along the way you will meet other characters and have to undertake certain challenges. Once you have obtained the necessary number of souvenirs, you must smuggle them all back to the village to defeat Caesar.

Rating: ✓✓✓✓ **Cost:** £29.99 **Available:** July 14

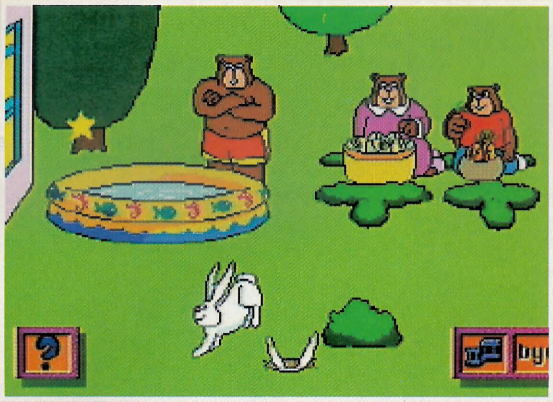


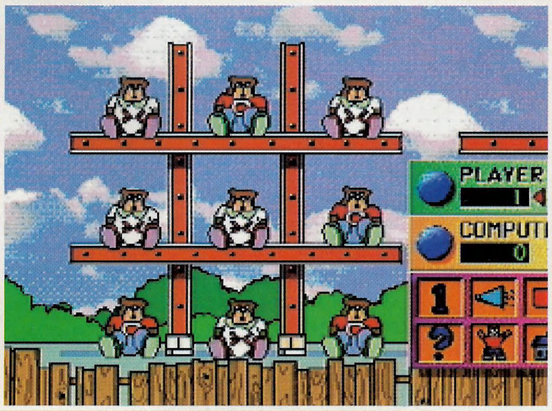


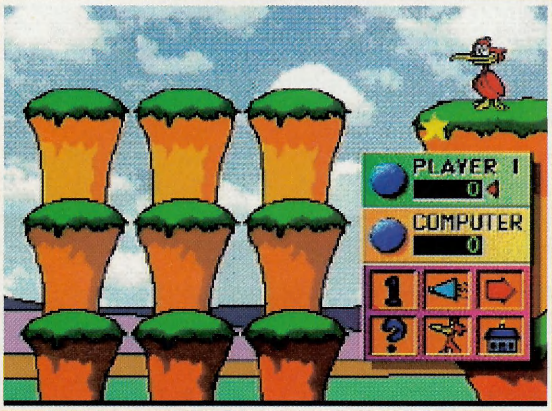


STICKYBEAR FAMILY FUN

The latest in the Stickybear series of CDi titles involves three easy-to-understand games for young children. All the viewer has to do is click on one of the characters on the screen and a new game will begin. There are three choices. Click on Stickybear and you can play "Bear Dunk", an adaptation of the word game "Hangman". You have to try to guess the correct word that has been selected randomly from 4,000 on the disc. Click on a letter of the alphabet, and if it forms part of the word, it will appear in the word window. If you choose the wrong letter, Stickybear — who is suspended on a plank above a pool of water — will find himself edging nearer and nearer the edge of the plank. Fail, and he will fall into the water. Click on Sara and Bumper, and you are introduced to "Tic Tac Toe" (an animated version of noughts and crosses). Your task is to place three identical images in a row. You have the option of one or two players. In one player mode, you can also alter the level of difficulty. As with all these games, you can alter the background graphics and in this one you can change the game pieces too. The third option is to click on the rabbits. This brings up



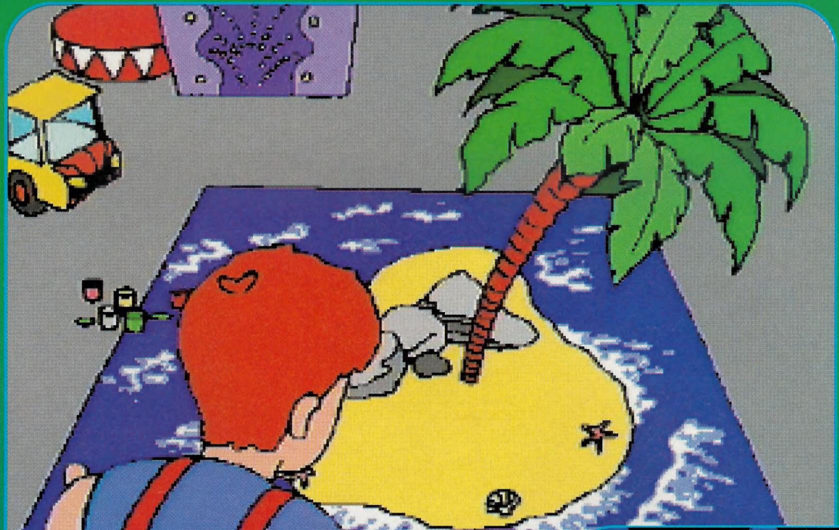


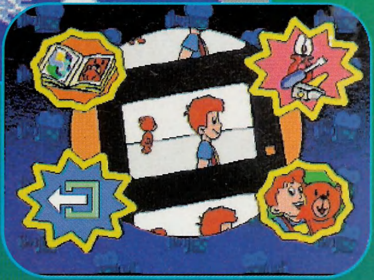


"Hippity Hop", a variation of the classic peg game. Your task is to jump over the other game pieces to eliminate them, leaving as few pieces as possible on the playing field. Points are determined by the number, location and colour of pieces left. The highest score is achieved by leaving the only coloured piece remaining in the centre of the board. Options include a choice of background and shape for the game board and the type of playing pieces. Overall, this disc seemed to contain less than previous Stickybear titles and you don't see a great deal of the characters. The games are fine, but a little more animation or stronger storyline wouldn't go amiss.

Produced by Optimum Resource Inc

Rating: ✓✓
Cost: £24.99
Available: TBA





TIM AND BEAR AT THE MOVIES

We've had Tim and Bear at the airport, at the hospital and now it's the movies. Well, not exactly. In fact, they end up exploring a film studio when they return from their holiday. How? It's simple. As they leave the airport, Tim goes in search of a bus. Unfortunately, Bear is left alone and inadvertantly gets thrown in the boot of some movie mogul's limo. Tim then has to rush over to the film studio to find him.

The disc works in exactly the same way as the others in this series. You, the viewer, can watch the story unfold and choose which of the two main characters to follow. Along the way, you can select from a number of other activities. Just press an action button and a menu bar will appear at the bottom of the screen. You can choose to colour in the pictures or solve some jig-saw puzzles. There are also two context-related games to play.

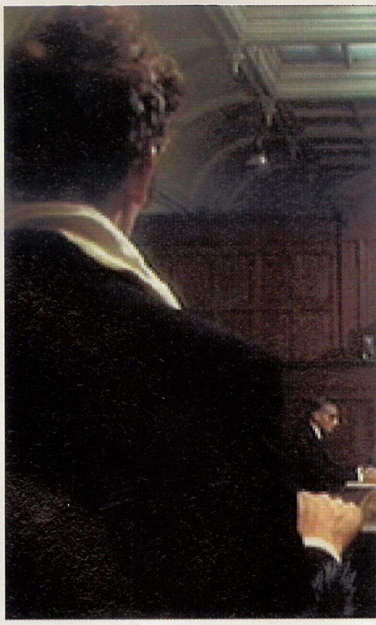
Tim and Bear's inquisitiveness will lead them to different parts of the film studio where all sorts of exciting things are going on; sets being built, actors being auditioned for parts and action sequences being filmed. Ideal for ages three to eight.

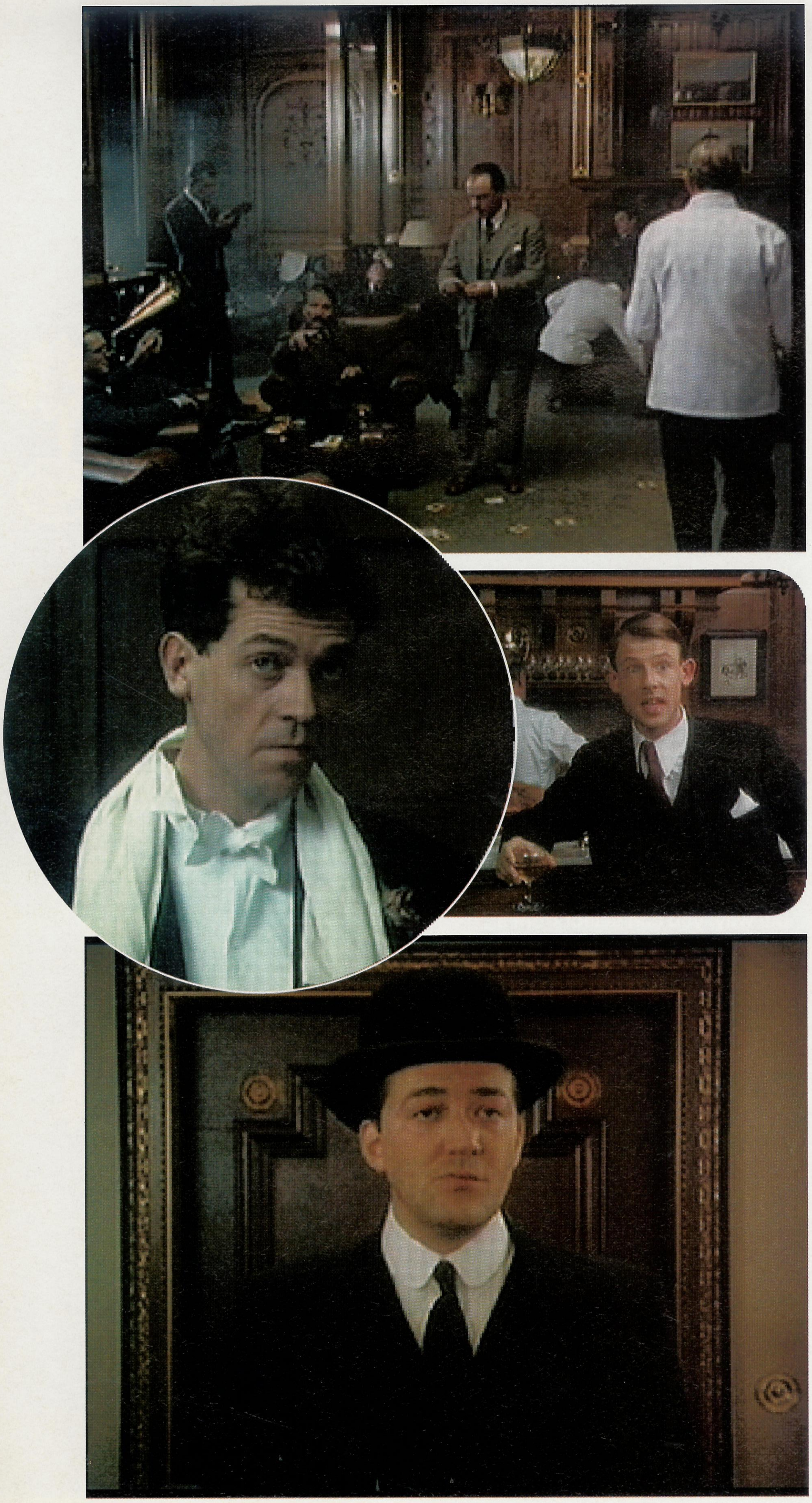
Produced by Valkieser Multimedia

Rating: ✓✓✓
Cost: £19.99
Available: TBA

JUST for laughs

From hilarious to downright dire – PATRICK BATEMAN, MIKE KAVANAGH & ANDY STOUT titter at the latest comedy releases on Video CD





JEEVES AND WOOSTER

Now that Stephen Fry is "resting" from acting, after walking out of the West End play *Cell Mates*, this may be your last chance to see him on video. Fry stars as the unflappable valet Jeeves to Hugh Laurie's idiotic Bertie Wooster in the TV series based on PG Wodehouse's hilarious stories.

Fry and Laurie make perfect comedy partners. One oozes urbane charm and common sense, the other has a face that has "upper class twit" written all over it.

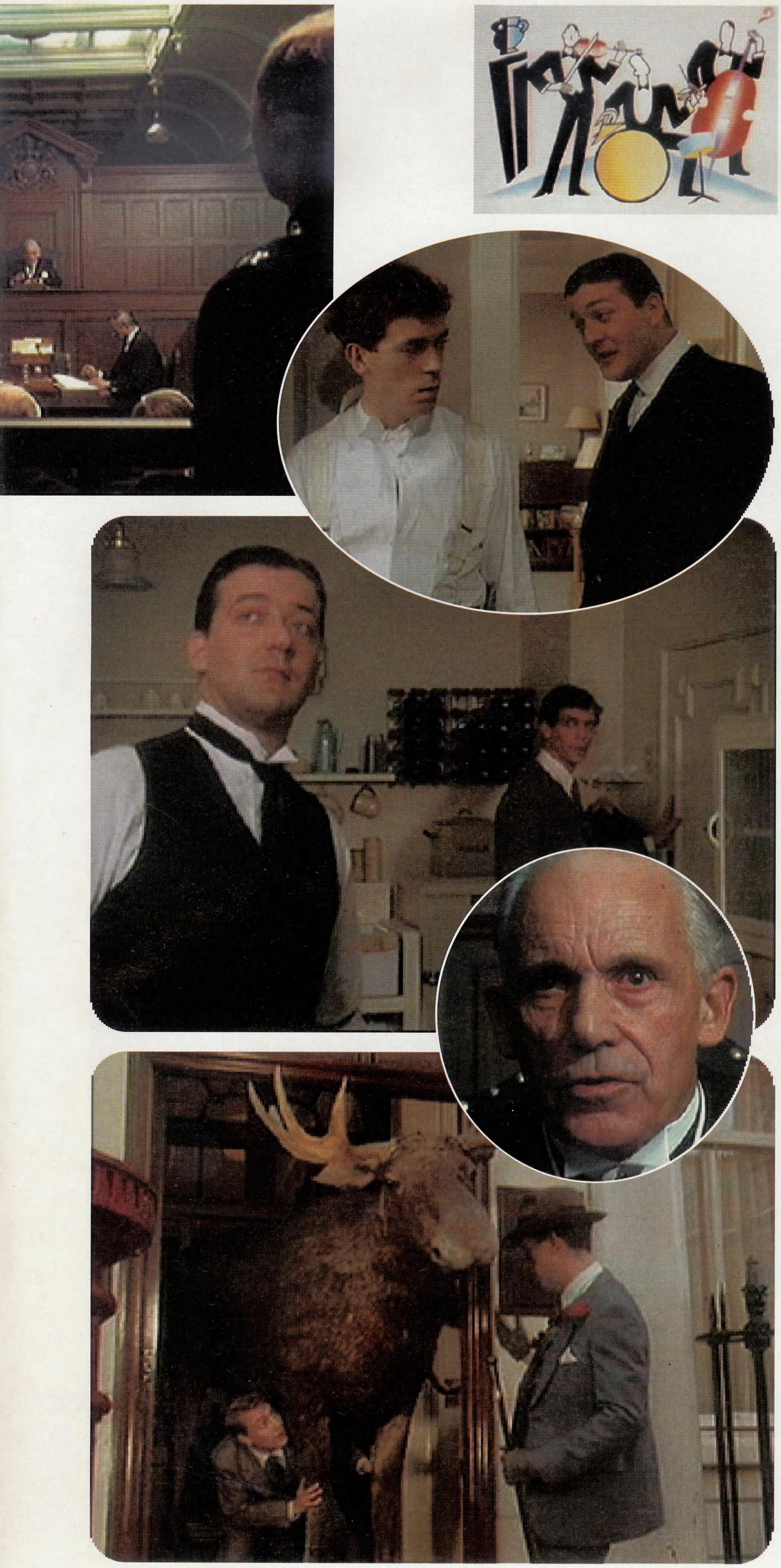
The period settings are suitably lavish and it's a joy just to look at some of the props on the set. From Wooster's Art Deco London flat to numerous country house locations, the programme makers have succeeded in reproducing the atmosphere of the 1930s.

The set contains two one hour episodes, one on each disc. Disc one centres around a devious plan by the dreaded Aunt Agatha — known as the "nephew crusher" — to marry Wooster off to Onoria, daughter of eminent neurologist Sir Roderick Glossop. Wooster sets off for Ditteridge Hall determined to destroy the whole idea of marriage, but as ever his plans go disastrously wrong.

Disc two sees him taking to the golf course. Wooster has set his heart on a young woman called Miss Roberta Wickham, and is determined to woo her. However, Jeeves does not approve, considering her "too frivolous" and "not a matrimonial prospect". Various silly pranks with a hot water bottle follow and the plot then takes some covoluted twists and turns involving a dog, a Broadway producer and an opera singer. To say any more would give the game away! But it all makes for entertaining viewing.

ANDY STOUT

Rating: ☆☆☆ Encoding: average
Cost: £17.99 Out: June 23 Contact: Philips



RIK MAYALL
IS
THE NEW STATESMAN
15
THE ENTIRE THIRD SERIES ON THREE DISCS
PHILIPS
VIDEO CD

THE NEW STATESMAN (series 3)

Rearrange these words to form a sentence: "brick a subtle as". The New Statesman, written by Marks and Gran — the duo who also brought us Birds of A Feather — has never been a series to use subtlety when a quick whack around the head with a sledgehammer will do. Make a point, make it again just to make sure the audience gets it, then throw in a willy gag for maximum hilarity.

Well, that's the theory, anyway. But the problem for any series that does political satire is the yardstick against which it will be measured. British TV does this genre of programme better than almost anyone else in the world and for something to be classed as truly great it has to measure up against Have I Got News For You, Spitting Image before it lost its teeth and a noble tradition stretching all the way back to TW3.

Not forgetting, of course, Yes Minister. Although The New Statesman occasionally gets in some very sharp bibes (such as Labour leaders faking regional accents, and a sign on the Labour Party HQ saying 'No hawkers, canvassers or socialists here') they are buried too deep in slapstick farce to be really effective. Every character is so exaggerated from the original, real-life template, every foible so horrendously magnified that the satire element is leached out and all you are left with is a sitcom. Yes Minister was infinitely more subtle.

The blurb on the cover says it all: "a modest easure of asinine political punch."

Asinine often, political punch rarely. Watch out, here comes some more schoolboy humour.

ANDY STOUT

Rating: ☆☆
Cost: £17.99 (three discs)
Available: June 9 **Contact:** Philips Media

A PORTION OF JETHRO

Yes, you're not the only one to wonder who the hell Jethro is. Well, he's a fat bearded stand-up comedian from the West Country with what sounds suspiciously like a cleft palate. He makes Jonathan Ross sound like vintage Gielgud, compounding the effect by using repetition. Jethro is not a right-on alternative comedian. His first joke (I use the term loosely) on this two-disc set establishes the tone for the following 78 minutes. "My wife's bloody awful, she is... she's got pig-tails under her arms." Other insightful observations include the fact that Indian food is hot, kids don't like Brussel sprouts, the wife is awful, the VAT man can get stuffed, cows' arses smell... This show, filmed at a packed Salisbury Town Hall and well encoded on to Video CD, should have gone down like Robert Maxwell in a Force 10 gale. But the audience not only managed to decipher Jethro's garbled mumblings, they laughed like drains every time he delivered punchlines such as: "You're a twat!"

PATRICK BATEMAN

Rating: ☆ Encoding: good Cost: £17.99 Available: now
Contact: PolyGram Video 0181 910 5000

LESLIE NIELSEN'S BAD GOLF MADE EASY

Most people practise to play good golf but no matter how much we practise we still end up playing bad golf," says Nielsen at the start of this Video CD. "So all the effort we make playing good golf should be spent on the game that we play the most — bad golf. We don't play golf to feel bad; we play bad golf but we feel good."

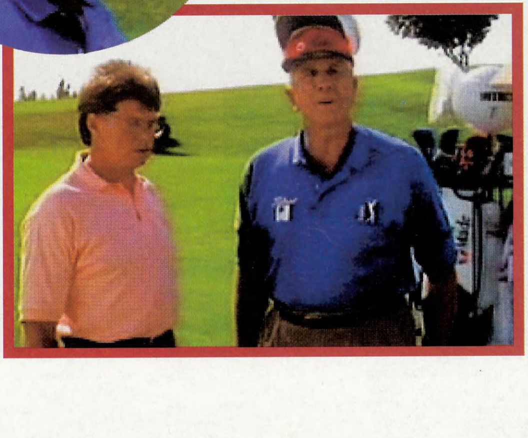
It is an interesting theory and a promising start for a humorous, School-for-Scoundrels style satire on how-to videos, self-help manuals and professional coaches who take golf too seriously. Unfortunately, this cheesy, witless and astonishingly unfunny 28-minute programme muffs the shot completely.

The storyline, such as it is, involves Leslie Nielsen as a fairy golf-father who dispenses tips and cheats to the golf wannabee Billy, set against the backdrop of the Palm Springs Course. Nielsen explains to his protegé how you can distract your rival's swing with some well-timed advice, or how you can make long putts shorter by marking the ball repeatedly, or how a wayward ball is never lost — it is missing presumed stolen.

Between these sketches the duo drive around in a golf buggy with Nielsen delivering Zen-like wisdom:"There are three movements in golf — keep your head down; keep your stupid head down; keep your damn stupid head down..."

PATRICK BATEMAN

Rating: ☆☆ Encoding: average Cost: £17.99
Available: now Contact: PolyGram 0181 910 5000



HELMET'S LAST STAND – ROY CHUBBY BROWN

Chubby Brown's humour is, to quote a phrase my father might use, as rough as a bear's arse. There's no getting away from it – Chubby is as blue as a penguin's bum, as full of cheek as a sumo wrestler's loincloth, and as filthy as the portaloos at the Glastonbury festival.

The crowd's welcoming chant of "You fat bastard", gratefully recieved by Brown, gives us a clue of what is to follow in this 60-minute package of blue and often self-deprecating humour.

Despite all the F and C words, he remains curiously lacking in malice and is in-offensive, if undoubtedly coarse. Sure, his machine-gun delivery of expletives is going to keep him off mainstream TV indefinitely. And his pre-occupation with orifices and the size and performance of men's dangley bits is also going to keep him away from officially-sanctioned TV transmissions.

But Chubby normally remains just this side of the line of that honourable and venerable tradition of smutty tomfoolery, of which the "Carry On" films form such a noble part. Get in the tinnies, grab a chip butty, and enjoy. But the real place to watch Brown is, of course, in the flesh after a stroll along the prom at Blackpool.

MIKE KAVANAGH

Rating: ☆☆☆ Encoding: very good
Cost: £17.99 Available: now
Contact: PolyGram 0181 910 5000

RATINGS:
☆=poor
☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good
☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆☆=excellent
All these discs require a DV cartridge

KIDS INTERACTIVE

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Story Machine: Star Dreams 690 024 2 £19.99
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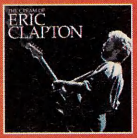

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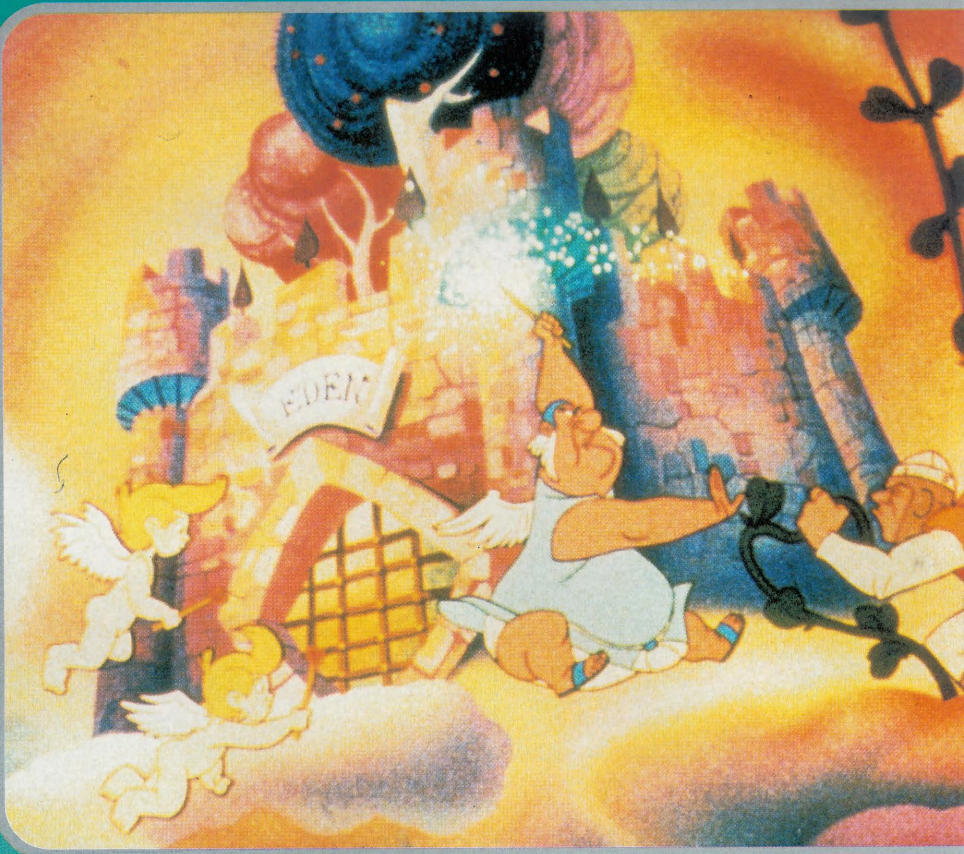
Once again Dirk the Daring must rescue Princess Daphne, this time from the clutches of the evil wizard Mordrok. Use our three-part guide to help you through the game



DRAGON'S LAIR II

PLAYER'S GUIDE

NOTES:

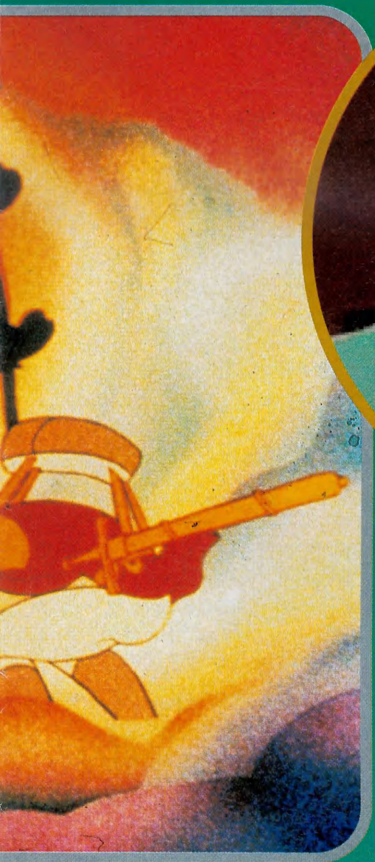
1) All levels except level 8, 9 and 10 have mirror levels. If you play a mirror level, you just have to replace left by right and right by left.

2) Sometimes you can choose between two moves that will give slightly different video sequences. Alternative moves are put between brackets.

3) If it is indicated you have to press a button twice, this means the next two actions require you to press an action button. If it's indicated you have to push up three times, then the next three actions require you to move up. It's up to you how many times you want to press.

LEVEL 1: MUM GETS ANGRY

You're enjoying your lunch. Suddenly Daphne's mum comes at you swaying her rolling pin. The abduction of her daughter has made her angry and she holds you responsible. A yellow light flashes on your left. Move left to avoid being hit. The entrance lights up. Push left and leave the house. Repeat this move and jump on the back of your horse. Mum is still chasing you. Press an action button twice to keep her at a safe distance (you destroy the cage with chicken and then duck). Push down to jump off your horse and push right. You enter a big dark castle. The gate slams down behind you. New evils waits for you.



Push a button to kill the snake on the right. Mum finally destroys the gate and enters the castle. Then a light flashes. Move to the right. You are now at the top of a well. (Alternative: move up. Take the arrow and move to the top of the well.) Press a button to kill the spider. (Alternative: push right. Take the bow and kill the spider.) Now you have to go down into the well. Push left to avoid the snake. Then push down. Suddenly Mum charges at you. Press an action button to avoid her. Don't fall. Move to the left to grab the snake. Then the floor starts crumbling. Push right twice. Time to get out. Press an action button to clear the exit (destroy the lock on the little wooden gate). You have reached the walls. Move to the left. The walls crumble and you are transported on a stone. Then push down. You disappear into a gap.

LEVEL 2: THE SEARCH FOR THE KEY

After you have disappeared into the ditch, you land on an old-fashioned air scooter (time machine). Suddenly you are attacked by a snake which is wearing tartan. Press an action button. Beware not to be caught by the tail. Push left to jump away. The Scotsman attacks again, so press a button. Then the creature pushes up your time machine. Push down to move to the left side of the machine. Press a button to hit the snake. It's time to run away. The skull on your right lights up, so push right. Inside the skull, you find a key. But first you have to survive a new attack by the snake. Press a button. Then push left. You take the key and run back towards your time machine. (Alternative: push up. You have a drink first. Then you take the key and run back towards the time machine.) Counter a new attack by pressing an action button twice. A light flashes on your left, so push left. You are attacked again. Press a button three times. Meanwhile, Mum appears on the right. The starter of the time machine lights up. Push right. Mum wants to throw a coffin at you, so press a button if you want to stay alive. Mum gets rid of the snake once and for all.

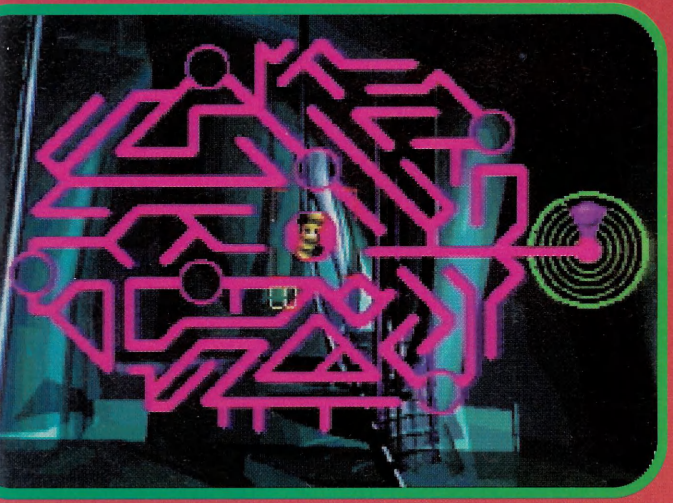
LEVEL 3: THE RED RIVER

Dirk flies over the red river when suddenly he sees Daphne and the wizard fighting on a rock. Push down to land the time machine. Just after the landing, you lose your sword. Push down and then left or push left twice to get it back. The rock starts crumbling, so push right. You are attacked by a flying lizard. Press a button to defend yourself. (Alternative: move left. Before you start fighting, you will take an egg out of the nest.) Press a button four times to continue your fight. The lizard takes off and abducts you. You will have to continue defending yourself after you have been abducted. Move right just before the lizard lands on the ledge. Then you see the princess again, but you are attacked before you can approach. Press an action button twice. You kill the great lizard, but instead baby monsters attack you. A pair of wings appears on the left rock. The rock lights up, so push left. Then a light flashes on your right. Push right. You grab the wings and take off. Press an action button to use your sword and then push left. The flying bastards still bother you, so push an action button twice. Lights flash on your left. Push left twice. In the meantime, you have approached the princess. Press an action button. Before you can approach her again, the monster that captured her weakens its grip and the princess falls down to earth. Push left to rescue her. Finally you hold Daphne in your arms. But happiness doesn't last. Press an action button three times to counter new attacks. One of the little monsters even fastens his teeth in your leg, but a real hero should fight off the pain. However, you can't hold Daphne, who falls down to the red river for the second time. Push right so you can rescue her. You land on the time machine that is floating on the red substance. Push left to jump in the water and get your sword back. It is time to regain your time machine, so push right. Then new monsters appear. Press a button three times. After the second press, a huge water monster appears. You end up in the water during the fight. A light flashes on your right. Push right. You reach the stump. Now you decide to get rid of the water dino once and for all. Press an action button twice. You enter the monster's mouth. Lights flash on your left. Push left twice. Turn on the time machine by pressing a button.

TO BE CONTINUED....

Our three-part guide to Burn:Cycle reaches its final crescendo this month. Part 1 was in the February issue and part 2 in April

Burn:Cycle
PLAYER'S GUIDE



ACT 3: THE TELEVERSE AND BEYOND

1) SATORI

Object: Get to know your fear.

From your starting point in the Pulse, turn right. Find SARTORI in this view and click. You're now inside a sound sculpture. There are no games in this area. Familiarise yourself with all the pictures and the dialogue bits associated with them. The next game requires this bit of research.

To get back to the Pulse from here or anywhere in the Televerse, pull up what used to be your inventory strip and click on the down arrow. This jumps you back directly to the Pulse. Any stuff you were carrying before you were scanned into the Televerse is, of course, gone. You're just a piece of code now. Only the Burn:Cycle virus icon remains.

2) NIRVANA: THE TREE

Object: Let your fear be heard.

Here you meet a great big gold Buddha. He has a tree with leaves in the palm of his hand. He tells you that you have to pick a leaf, but it must be the correct leaf, because all the others have a virus which will kill you. His hint is that to pick the correct leaf, you must let your fear be heard. The first step towards doing this is to work out how to get the tree to make sounds. There are three weights at the bottom of the tree that can be taken off and rearranged in different configurations. Play with the weights. Just above the tree trunk is a hot spot that turns the cursor into red sonic waves. Click here, and the tree shakes and plays the sound of one of the leaves. Different configurations of the weights play different leaves.

Eventually, you will find a configuration that plays some dialogue that goes like this: "the corporation authorised it..."

The man who delivers this dialogue is your fear.

Picking this leaf solves the problem of the tree. You can pick it at any time, without messing around with the weights. It is towards the upper part of the tree. If you pick three incorrect leaves, you die. Go back to the Pulse.

3) COMPORT: CODE TO CORTEX

Object: Get a code from Asky.

Enter the Comport. This is where your friend Asky lives. Had you tried to get into Cortex before, you would have found the door locked and a keypad next to it. You ask Asky for the code, and he gives you the numbers 001122. Go back to the Pulse, then hit Cortex.

4) CORTEX: TRY ASKY'S CODE

Object: See if Asky's code will open the door to Cortex.

On your way to the door you meet Kris. She walks through a wall and leaves a third eye design on it. This is a clue for later. Go to the door and punch in the code. It doesn't do anything. Asky's information is old. You'll have to find another way. Maybe you should let Asky know that his code stinks. Go back to the Comport.

5) COMPORT: RAGE GAME

Object: Re-integrate your anger into your body.

When you visit Asky again, he doesn't care much that his code didn't work. You're out of credit with him. Fortunately, a stray piece of your code that flaked off when you were scanned into the Televerse is hanging around near here. Unfortunately, it's your rage. Rage accosts you and pops you a good one on the nose — and then walks off.

Jump back to the Pulse, and you can see where he is heading. He is off to ride the waves of the Televerse, and he's not interested in coming back. Get him back into you, or you'll never be able to upload yourself into a new body. Rage turns into a yellow blob. Shoot him, and he reddens. Shoot him enough in a short space of time, and he is defeated and integrated back into you. Fail to do so, and he escapes, blowing all chances of your safe return to the real

world. You die.
Once you've defeated him, you're back at the Pulse.

6) NIRVANA: BACK TO THE BUDDHA

Object: Figure out how to integrate the Buddha back into your code.

The Buddha is another piece of your code. The clue for how to integrate him was given when Kris walked through the wall and left a third eye. Put your cursor on his forehead and click. He should explode, integrating back into you.

7) CORTEX: LAST PIECE OF CODE

Object: Pick up the last piece of code.

You still haven't cracked the code on the door to Cortex. That's because you can't. You need to find the last bit of your code so that you can go anywhere you want.
When you approach the door that you haven't been able to pass through, a movie with Kris plays. She's the last bit of your code. She integrates with you, and now you can go through the door. Do so, and you finally meet Vielli.

8) TELEVERSE VIELLI'S: DEACTIVATING THE VIRUS

Enter Vielli's and watch the movies. Now move towards the screen with the maze on it towards the back of the room It is, indeed, a maze. Towards the right of the maze is a circle with a red cursor on it. This represents Vielli's cure for the Burn:Cycle virus. In the centre of the maze is the virus itself. It emits little agents that travel along the maze.
Your job is to steer the cure to the virus in the middle without intersecting with any of its agents. If you hit an agent, your cure gets destroyed. Since Vielli only has five copies of the cure, you only have five chances to succeed.
A few helpful hints:
1) Watch the maze animate. It goes in loops. The paths extend and contract, so the places in which you can travel change with each animation loop. 2) The "memory pocket" circles within the maze make good hiding places. The agents can't get to you when you're on the edge of one of these circles.
When you reach the centre of the maze, the virus is deactivated. You're no longer working against the clock. A movie showing what's happening in the real world plays. Your enemy, Dealey, busts into Doc's and kills Doc and Gala. He warns you that he's going to do harm to your body unless you come back and bring him the upload code that he needs. You're stuck. If you go back, you are surely dead. Vielli offers to upload you into a spare body in his lab in the real world instead. You agree, and wake up in a woman's body. Now you have to fulfill his request. Find his head and take it away before Softech discovers it and steals his thoughts.

9) REAL VIELLI'S: FIND THE HEAD

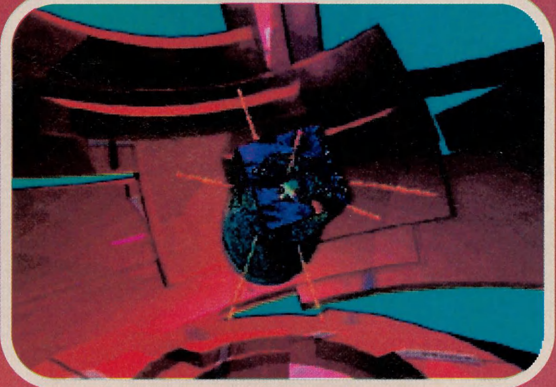
Object: Find Vielli's head and leave the building.

The head is in the storage facility below the floor in the middle of the room. Call up the elevator down into the vat storage area. Click on the heads until you find the right one. When you click on the right one, you move out of the vat area and back into the lab.
Now that you're out of the vat area, move towards the scanning equipment in back of you. Here you see your own reflection. Once you have seen the movie, you can leave Vielli's. You head for the hotel.

10) HOTEL: KILL EVERYBODY

Object: Survive long enough to leave town.

You go back to the hotel after Vielli's, but Dealey is waiting for you. This time, you finally kill him. The noise of the shoot-out attracts some guards, whom you need to be prepared to blast quickly. Once you have done this, you try to escape through the vent, but the head is too big to take with you. You leave it in the room, where the Softech agents will find it. Vielli won't be happy.



11) ORBITAL PORT

No games here. You just find out that Vielli actually wanted Softech to find his head. It contains a virus. When they try to upload the code they want from his brain, the virus will kill off their entire corporation. You watch the lights of Softech go out, one by one.

GAME ENDS

letters

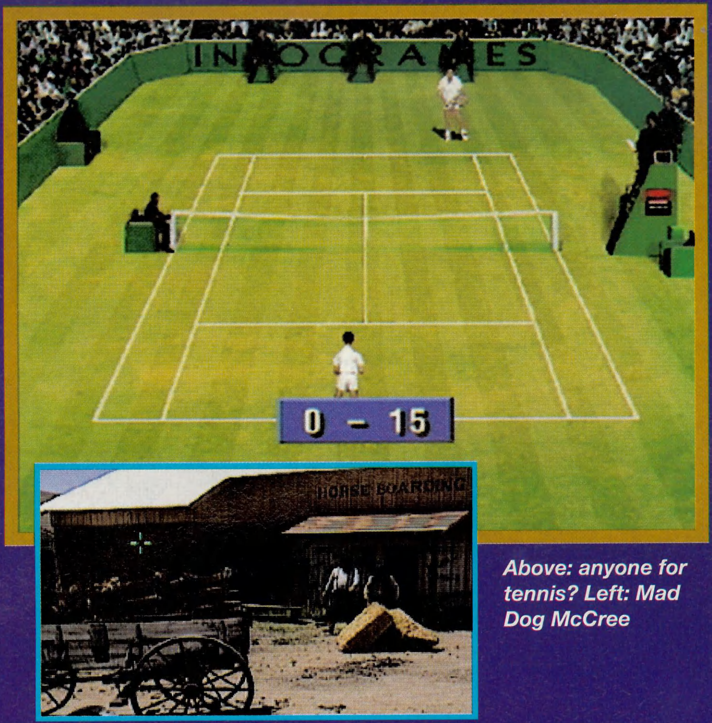
Write to CDi Magazine, Haymarket Publishing, 38-42 Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0JE

simply the best?

Last September I had the choice of buying a Philips CDi or the Panasonic 3DO. Some investigations later I found that CDi was the one to get, which I did. I have around 25 software titles including Mad Dog McCree and Burn:Cycle. Until recently I thought that CDi was the best product in home entertainment. But I'm becoming disappointed with the appalling range of games software available. Compared with CD ROM, CDi comes a very sad second. When I look at the games available for CD ROM users I get angry. There is such a massive range to choose from. I am even jealous of 3DO, although their games are not as high quality as CDi games.

CDi could easily be the best on the market, but all Philips seems to do is bring out music and video CDs. This is fine, but there is still a severe lack of decent games. I am a great sports fan and would like to see more sports games. I have Palm Springs Open, International Tennis and Striker Pro. The only good one is the golf title. The football game is terrible. Can you reassure me that there will be plenty of games coming out in the near future? Does Philips have any plans to bring out the Star Wars Trilogy on video CD or as an interactive game?

Darren Bell
Eastwood
Essex

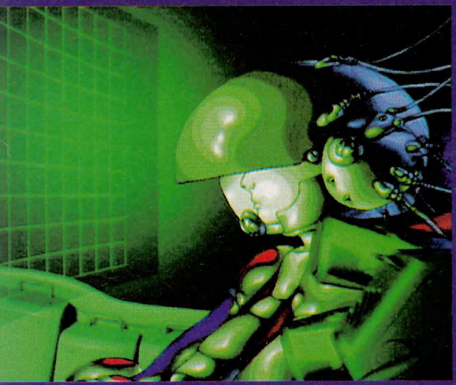


Above: anyone for tennis? Left: Mad Dog McCree

We are constantly aware of the lack of CDi software, particularly games. Philips has signed up a host of top titles for the CDi format, but still seems to be slow in getting them into the market. Sadly, there is nothing we can do about this. None of the Star Wars films are on my current release schedule.

ED

chaos in the labyrinth



Absolutely amazing: but the Chaos explosions are confusing

After reading your review of Chaos Control I have a point about the game. The reviewer was correct in saying the explosions on screen are confusing at times. I found this out in the final phase of the game when you are in the labyrinth. It makes incoming aliens that have not been shot hard to aim at, and by the time the explosion has disappeared, it is too late. Apart from this quibble the game is absolutely amazing. Jason Alesi is right — The Apprentice is "a total git of a game". I have had it for two weeks and am still stuck on Level 1. Could you put it in your Hot Tips section in your next issue and put me out of my misery?

Keep up the good work on your brilliant magazine.

WM Baxter
Biggleswade

We will consider running a player's guide to The Apprentice in a future issue.

ED

all at sixes and sevens

Could you answer a few questions please?

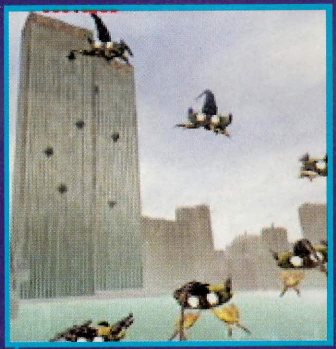
1) On the 7th Guest, I'm stuck on the first puzzle in the attic. I've no idea of what to do, let alone how to do it.

2) Do any other movie companies (besides Paramount) plan to release their films on CDi?

Graham Veal
Horsham

For further advice on The 7th Guest, call the Philips Clubline on 0891 244424. Philips has signed a deal with MGM/UA to release its back catalogue of films on Video CD, and PolyGram is releasing some of its films.

ED



Chaos Control: lacking challenge

chaos theory

After reading the review of Chaos Control in issue 9 of CDi Magazine it sounded absolutely brilliant and we could not wait for it to come out.

We found it hard to get the game at first, but eventually we managed to buy it. My sons could not wait to get home to try it. But we were very disappointed, to say the least. My 11-year-old son managed to finish the game in only two hours. You can imagine his disappointment when he found out it had finished.

You scored the graphics at 98% and sound 92%, which I agree with, but gave the overall game 90%. I just cannot agree with this. It is a good game but lacks any challenge.

My wife is upset that she has spent £49.99 on a game that lasted only two hours. This works out at £25 an hour which I think is very bad value. It would be nice to know if any other CDi buffs have experienced the same problem.

John Oldale
Sheffield

We have had a few similar complaints. Obviously, some people are better at games than others, but games do vary in difficulty. Other people have complained that certain CDi games are too hard, so it is a difficult balance to strike. But I agree that gameplay is a critical element, and some of the newer titles perhaps concentrate too much on the quality of the graphics.

ED

Sneak preview: find out all about Lost Eden on page 12

double Dutch

I am an enthusiastic reader of your fabulous magazine. I always look forward to reading it. Here in Holland we also have a dedicated CDi magazine, but it is not half as good as yours. Can you answer a few question?

1) Whatever happened to Rebel Assault on CDi? I first read about this in a magazine about two years ago, and your magazine mentioned it in issue 3.

2) Could you give us some previews of new CDi games coming out later this year? There are lots of games coming in the next few months which have never been previewed (such as Creature Shock, Lost Eden, Litil Divil 2, World Cup Golf and Dead End).

3) Are the following games out on CDi? Mad Dog McCree 2, Crime Patrol, Space Pirates, Wing Commander 3, Road Rash, Demolition Man, Full Throttle and 11th Hour.

4) Why doesn't Philips buy a well-known software house (ie LucasArts, Electronic Arts or Virgin) to ensure a continuing supply of high quality CDi games?

5) Do you think CDi is powerful enough to handle games such as Doom, Dark Forces and Rise of the Triads?

Merijn Veken
Holland

Rebel Assault on CDi has been cancelled. We preview Lost Eden in this issue and interview the game's developer, Cryo Interactive. We will preview the other titles you mention as soon as we can obtain anything playable on a disc from Philips. Mad Dog 2 and Crime Patrol will be released on CDi, but I know of no plans for the others you mention.
Buying a software house is not a bad idea, but might be rather expensive! Philips is constantly pushing the boundaries of CDi technology to handle more complicated games such as Doom.

ED

memory games

My collection of CDi games is growing rapidly, but nearly every piece of software I own wants a chunk of my memory. With most of the games demanding at least 10 per cent of the memory I am finding it difficult to save all my games. Are there any plans to produce an extra memory board?

In issue 10 there was talk of plans for a new high density disc using MPEG 2. When this comes out, will I need a new CD drive to run these discs?

Matt Phillips
Kent

I know of no plans at this stage to produce an extra memory board for CDi. MPEG 2 discs will require a new CD drive.

ED

on the Indiana Jones trail

I recently bought a back issue No 3 and saw a list of films to be released in November/December 1993. "Raiders of the Lost Ark" was on the list. As an Indiana Jones fan I wonder if it will be released, and if so, will the other two films in the series ("The Temple of Doom" and "The Last Crusade") be released as a box set?

If it is to be released will it be in widescreen? I think movies look much better this way. And are the Batman movies going to be released on CDi?

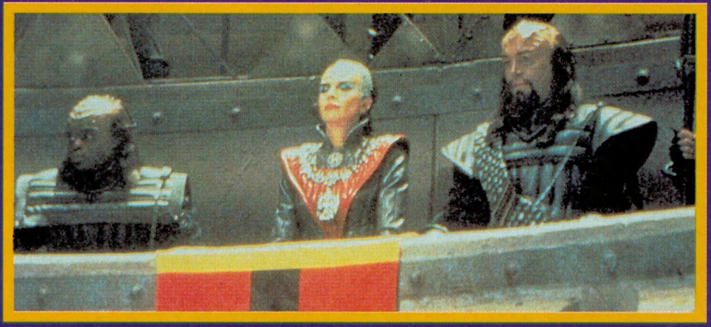
Andrew Cunliffe
North Ashton
Lancs

The waiting game: no release date yet for Indiana Jones

The list of film releases is changing constantly and since issue 3 I have heard no mention of either the Indiana Jones series or Batman being released on Video CD.

ED

star gazing



Trekker treat: Star Trek II will be released on CDi on July 14

Thank you for a well-informed and well-thought out magazine. As CDi format is not covered in many other magazines, it makes a refreshing change to be able to read a magazine dedicated to CDi. I am a big Star Trek fan and have a few questions.

1) "Star Trek: The Next Generation – Interactive Manual" is on CD ROM. Are there any plans to release the title on CDi?

2) "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" was given an early 1995 release date in previous issues, yet it is still unreleased. Is there a delay?

3) Are there any plans to release more films in widescreen? I enjoyed "Ghost", mainly because it was in letterbox format.

Pradeep Dhall
Edinburgh

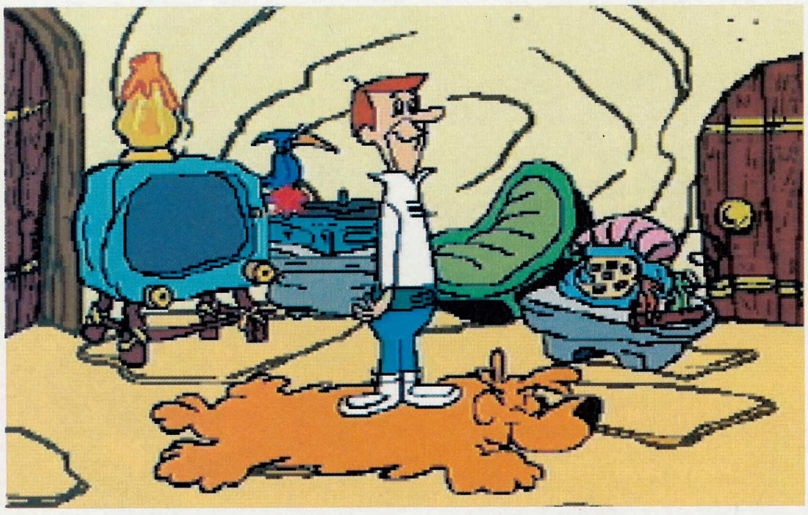
As far as I know, "Star Trek: TNG – Interactive Manual" is not currently due for release. Star Trek I, II, III & IV will be released on July 14. Philips is evaluating other possible widescreen releases.

ED

read my lips!

When, oh when, is Philips going to get the message? How many people have to write in to your magazine before they realise we are all crying out for a CDi joystick? Not a touchpad, not a games pad, a *joystick*. Read my lips!

D'Arcy
Wannock



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A VISIT TO SESAME STREET – LETTERS
Meet the characters from the TV series and explore the world of Sesame Street.

Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 018 2

A VISIT TO SESAME STREET – NUMBERS
Visit Bert and Ernie's place, Big Bird's House and the Count's Castle.

Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 019 2

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
The story of Beauty and the Beast told by Mia Farrow.

Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 114 2

BERENSTAIN BEARS
Meet the popular and friendly Berenstain Bears and follow the young bears' antics as they try and persuade their parents to let them go to the fair.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 007 6

BRER RABBIT AND THE WONDERFUL TAR BABY
The story of Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox told by Danny Glover.

Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 045 2

CARTOON CARNIVAL (DV)
Classic cartoons from Hanna Barbera. Each time you win a game, collect a letter. Spell Cartoon Carnival, and you are rewarded with a cartoon.

Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 016 5

CARTOON JUKEBOX
Favourite tunes such as Pop Goes the Weasel and Row, Row, Row Your Boat.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 001 2

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL THEATRE
Customise your own songs and watch as they are performed by musical animals.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 008 2

DARK FABLES OF AESOP
Twelve moral tales narrated by Danny Glover.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 085 2

FACE KITCHEN
French chef Uby cooks up some very funny faces. Choose a combination of lips, eyes and hair and bring the results to life.

Price £29.99 Cat. No. 811 000 2

FLINTSTONES / JETSONS TIMEWARP
In this original animated adventure, a time machine warps George Jetson back to prehistoric times and Fred Flintstone into the future.

Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 010 4

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN'S THUMBELINA
Read, sing, colour and count with all the delightful characters from Thumbelina's tiny world. **(August)**

Price £29.99 Cat. No. 819 101 4

HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP
Rudyard Kipling's popular tale of the lazy camel.

Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 021 2

HOW THE RHINO GOT HIS SKIN
Another Rudyard Kipling tale, that of a gluttonous rhinoceros who gets his comeuppance.

Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 023 2

KISS
An electronic magazine for teenage girls with tips on fashion, make-up and health.

Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 004 7

LITTLE MONSTER AT SCHOOL
The interactive version of the popular children's book.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 017 1

MAX MAGIC
The first electronic magic set that allows children to amaze their family and friends with tricks that boggle the mind.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 019 1

MORE DARK FABLES FROM AESOP
Twelve more tales narrated by Danny Glover.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 086 2

MOTHER GOOSE HIDDEN PICTURES
An animated activity book combining the pleasures of hearing and seeing nursery rhymes with the added fun of picking objects.

Price £7.99 Cat. No. 690 015 2

MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES TO COLOUR
Mother Goose escorts your children as they wander through their favourite nursery rhymes.

Price £7.99 Cat. No. 690 016 2

MUZZY (DV)
A hugely popular BBC TV series debuts on CDi. A simple and fun way for young children to learn French.

Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 008 4

PAINT SCHOOL 1
Choose from several hundred scenes to paint.

Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 009 2

PAINT SCHOOL 2
More pictures to paint using the CDi's huge colour palette.

Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 002 2

PECOS BILL
A colourful retelling of the legend of Pecos Bill – the fearless buckaroo. Narration by Robin Williams.

Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 012 2

RICHARD SCARRY'S BUSIEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER
Explore the wonderful world of Busytown.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 038 2

RICHARD SCARRY'S BEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER
The second in the popular series. Visit the library, the fire station or your home.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 037 2

ROUTES TO READING
Interactive learning for young readers. Contains five popular story books from Collins' Bookbus series. **(June)**

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 005 0

SANDY'S CIRCUS ADVENTURE
Sandy, the cuddly sea lion, is lost in the circus and your child is invited along. Together they can explore all the fun and excitement of the big top.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 022 2

SANTA CLAUS'S MICE
A Christmas fairy story.

Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 001 2

SHIPWRECK
Learn about electricity and how it works by completing certain tasks or playing an exciting adventure game.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 002 5

SOUNDTRAP
Second in the series of interactive learning discs, it explores the creation of different sound waves.

Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 003 2

STICKYBEAR MATHS
Children help the Stickybear family succeed in this animated adventure by solving

problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 006 4

STICKYBEAR PRE-SCHOOL
Encourage your pre-schooler's natural inquisitiveness and budding independence with this great learning title.
Price £24.99 Cat.No. 810 021 8

STORY MACHINE MAGIC TALES
Create your own fairy tales or adventure stories by adding your own scenes, characters, narration and dialogue.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 025 2

STORY MACHINE STAR DREAMS
Star Dreams whisks you away on an intergalactic adventure of your own making. Create your own stories.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 024 2

SURF CITY
Sing along to the superb music of the Beach Boys as you explore a typical 1960s beach town in America.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 009 1

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES
This version of one of Hans Christian Andersen's best-loved tales is told by Sir John Gielgud.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 042 2

TIM & BEAR AT THE AIRPORT
Learning adventures with Tim and his cuddly toy bear on their first journey to an airport.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 019 3

TOM'S MAGIC PICTURE SHOW
Help to enrich your child's English vocabulary and ensure that they make steps in languages such as French and Spanish.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 000 9

ZOMBIE DINOS FROM PLANET ZELTOID
Dexter the Dinodroid takes you back to the days when dinosaurs ruled the earth.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 811 001 8

CHILDREN'S VIDEO CD

LEARN WITH SOOTY (VCD)
This popular character has been delighting children for over 50 years. This Start to Read disc was devised in consultation with educational specialists.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 7

THE BFG (VCD)
Based on the best-selling novel by Roald Dahl. A full length animated film featuring the voice of David Jason as the Big Friendly Giant.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 6

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS (VCD)
A Tale of Two Toads. This feature length story is brought to life by the voices of Peter Sallis and David Jason.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 8

PADDINGTON BEAR (VCD)
Four episodes of the loveable Paddington Bear feature on this two disc set. (Aug)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 250 7

THE SECRET OF NIMH (VCD)
The story of timid Mrs Brisby, a widowed field mouse, who must summon the courage to defy man, beast and nature. With the help of love sick Jeremy the Crow and the rats of Nimh, she finds strength to overcome the obstacles that threaten her. (July)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 204 0

THE BLACK STALLION (VCD)
A touching story about the adventures of a young boy and his friendship with an Arabian horse. (July)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 203 7

GAMES

ALICE IN WONDERLAND
Roam around Wonderland as you try to solve the rhymes and puzzles that will take you on to the next level of this adventure.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 065 2

ALIEN GATE
Hordes of nasty monsters are advancing through the Alien Gate with one objective – the destruction of your world.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 004 9

BACKGAMMON
Everything you need to play backgammon on CDi, including three animated opponents each with a different skill level, from beginner to expert.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 039 2

BATTLESHIP
You command a fleet of five ships. Your mission is to seek and destroy your enemy's ships before he destroys yours.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 033 2

BURN:CYCLE
Sol Cutter has passed out in the Softech Corporation where his brain has been downloaded with a computer virus. A live action cyberpunk game.
Price £44.99 Cat. No. 810 011 4

CAESARS WORLD OF BOXING (DV)
Join the boxers, promoters, managers and reporters at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Work your way through the ranks in this two-player game.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 810 014 3

CAESARS WORLD OF GAMBLING
Experience the real sights and sounds of the Caesars Palace casinos.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 027 2

CD SHOOT
Practise your clay shooting skills.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 811 001 4

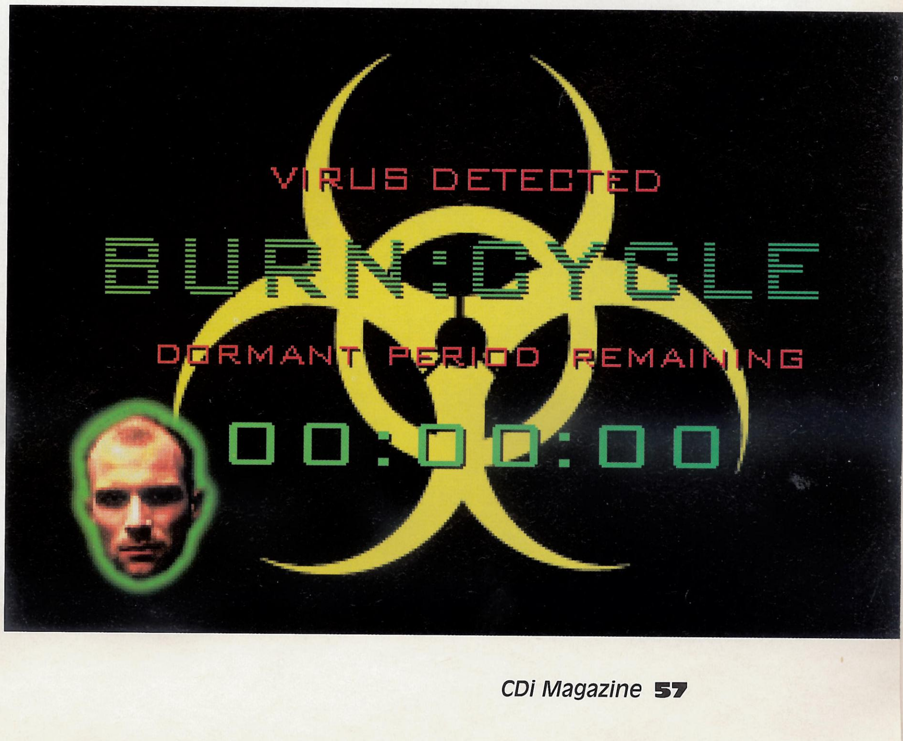
CHAOS CONTROL (DV)
This fast-paced arcade game with 5 different levels is based entirely on computer graphics in which the aim is to defeat an alien fleet which is invading the solar system.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 810 020 0

CLUEDO (DV)
While remaining faithful to the original board game, Cluedo on CDi is a slick and polished electronic game for all the family.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 819 100 2

CONNECT FOUR
The CDi version of the popular vertical chequers game.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 020 2

DEFENDER OF THE CROWN
The Saxon lords have chosen you to lead them in the fight against the hated Normans.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 069 2

DIMO'S QUEST
Dimo takes you on a "candy quest" as you battle your way



through an increasingly difficult series of mazes.

Price £19.99 **Cat. No. 810 016 6**

DRAGON'S LAIR 1 (DV)

Second in the series of CDi arcade games by Hollywood animation specialist Don Bluth.

Price £49.99 **Cat. No. 810 018 1**

DRAGON'S LAIR 2 (DV)

Dirk the Daring is back in this madcap sequel to the original Dragon's Lair.

Price £49.99 **Cat. No. 810 012 5**

EARTH COMMAND

Your task is to save the world from impending environmental disaster. By adjusting population growth, taxes and environmental policies you can prevent Armageddon.

Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 810 007 2**

ESCAPE FROM CYBERCITY

Your mission is to survive the dangers of CyberCity, fight your way to the train and destroy the Guardian's planet.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 071 2**

FLASHBACK

2142 AD. Battle your way back to Earth to stop the invading mutant forces... FlashBack: the ultimate test in survival – the ultimate platform game. **(Aug)**

Price: £34.99 **Cat. No. 811 020 2**

HOTEL MARIO

The world's most popular plumber makes his debut on CDi. Seven different locations and 80 levels to explore.

Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 810 009 0**

INCA

You are the last surviving Inca. To save your race you must journey across space, battling enemies and collecting special powers on the way.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 012 6**

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS OPEN

The popular tennis simulation game is in a two-player version so you can fight to match point against your friends.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 2**

KETHER

Stunning graphics in this mix of arcade action and puzzle solving.

Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 810 012 8**

KINGDOM (DV)

Role playing/fantasy adventure game including 30 minutes of video. **(June)**

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. tbc**

LASER LORDS

You can explore alien worlds in the Laser Lords' star cruiser.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 074 2**

LEMMINGS

The classic game! Prevent these furry little creatures from killing themselves in over 100 dangerous and puzzling scenes.

Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 810 011 1**

LINK: FACES OF EVIL

Nintendo characters appear for the first time on CDi.

Ganon has captured the island of Koridai and Link must save it from the Faces of Evil.

Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 0**

LITIL DIVIL (DV)

Poor old Mutt must work his way through the Labyrinth of Chaos where he has to find the Mystic Pizza of Plenty. A game of exploration, fighting and puzzle solving.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 016 9**

LORDS OF THE RISING SUN

A Japanese strategy game featuring live actors and interesting gameplay.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 098 2**

MAD DOG McCREE (with gun) (DV)

A quality shoot-'em-up set in a ramshackle Western town: if you're a real sharp-shooter, you'll end up blowing these guys away. Released with the Peacekeeper revolver.

Price £69.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 9**

MEGAMAZE

A series of ever more complex mazes will test your wits to the full in this exciting game of skill.

Price £19.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 3**

MERLIN'S APPRENTICE

A mysterious, magical tale of medieval sorcery with over 30 different puzzles for all the family.

Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 810 019 2**

MUTANT RAMPAGE (DV)

A good old-fashioned beat-'em-up set in a post-apocalyptic world. Fast and adrenalin-stuffed action.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 017 9**

MYSTIC MIDWAY R.I.P

The "master of cemeteries" Dr Dearth welcomes you to his shooting gallery. 15 targets, and ten game levels.

Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 152 2**

MYSTIC MIDWAY: PHANTOM EXPRESS

Join Dr Dearth, the master of cemeteries, on a roller coaster ride in the sequel to Mystic Midway.

Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 810 017 8**

NFL ULTIMATE AMERICAN FOOTBALL COLLECTION

This 3-title pack includes 100 Greatest Touchdowns, Hall of Fame and Trivia Challenge.

Price: £39.99 **Cat. No. 811 011 5**

OTHELLO

The electronic version of the popular board game.

Price £24.99 **Cat. No. 810 016 3**

PALM SPRINGS OPEN

Play 18 of the world's most famous and challenging holes on your own TV. Control "live" golfers on actual courses.

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 013 2**

POWER HITTER

Baseball challenge which puts you up against the game's great pitchers.

Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 811 001 7**

SARGON CHESS

There are 16 levels of this chess program, or use the special novice level.

Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 690 030 2**

SECRET MISSION

An original adventure game of international espionage and intrigue. **(July)**

Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 027 2**

SPACE ACE (DV)

Space Ace has been zapped by the evil Borf and you must help him defeat the dreaded Infanto Ray and save the earth.

Price £49.99 **Cat. No. 810 007 3**

STEEL MACHINE

A fast and furious shoot-em-

'up with a hard core dance soundtrack.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 016 0

STRIKER
Striker Pro is a based on the highly successful Ultimate Soccer on the Sega MegaDrive and Striker on the SNES and Amiga.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 811 004 4

TANGRAM
Choose from beginner, intermediate or advanced levels of play in this puzzle game.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 811 001 5

TETRIS
The classic Russian puzzle game featuring ten levels of play and made popular by the ubiquitous Gameboy.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 188 2

TEXT TILES
A word spelling strategy game for all ages.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 043 2

THE 7TH GUEST (DV)
Virgin's fabulous mystery adventure game. With stunning sound and graphics, the CDi version comes with CD soundtrack.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 811 004 0

THE APPRENTICE (DV)
A jump and run style platform game. Take control of the wizard's apprentice, Marvin, through his tasks which include running, jumping, flying and even swimming.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 810 019 9

THE ULTIMATE NOAH'S ARK
Explore in detail the wonderful painting by artist Mike Wilks and try to discover which animal does not have a mate.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 003 1

THUNDER IN PARADISE (DV)
Join Terry "Hulk" Hogan and Chris Lemmon in this exciting interactive TV adventure. Plus free Video CD.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 019 8

VIDEO SPEEDWAY
Motor racing game with ten tracks to choose from. The player can race karts, Formula 3000 or Formula 1.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 819 001 1

VOYEUR (18)
An adult political whodunnit. Spy on the house of Presidential character Reed Hawke and his family and find out who the real baddies are.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 016 2

THE WACKY WORLD OF MINIATURE GOLF
18 hole crazy golf game.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 013 5

WORD PLAY
A game for 2, 3 or 4 players. Collect from a pool of letters and compete against the other players to create words with these letters and gain points.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 819 100 4

ZELDA: WAND OF GAMELON
Rescue Link and save the world in this gripping adventure.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 009 6

MUSIC

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER (DV)
The Premiere Collection from the Lloyd Webber stable includes hits sung by Jason Donovan, Sarah Brightman, Michael Ball and David Essex.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 200 1

ANTISTATIC
More psychedelic music from Hex – rave visuals and groovy music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 017 0

BRYAN ADAMS (DV)
The *Waking Up the Neighbours* video from Canadian Bryan Adams.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 200 2

BON JOVI (DV)
Bon Jovi's *Keep the Faith* album with full Digital Video to accompany every track.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 200 3

CLASSICAL JUKEBOX
Study the lives of 15 of the world's classical composers and listen to their music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 005 2

CREAM OF CLAPTON (DV)
The best of Eric Clapton in full Digital Video for fans and casual listeners alike.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 083 862 4

CURE SHOW (DV)
All the wonders of The Cure's music with superb digital stereo sound and Digital Video to match.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 087 742 4

DAVID BOWIE: THE VIDEO COLLECTION (VCD)
A treat for Bowie fans – 26 stunning tracks.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 491 186 2

e-SCAPE
Club music and psychedelic visuals brought to you by Hex. Incorporates eight hard-core techno tracks with real-time computer graphics.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 011 7

GOLDEN OLDIES JUKEBOX
Jump and jam to the tunes of the 1950s and 1960s. Lyrics appear with the music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 006 2

HEADCRASH
A three-disc pack including a brand new disc from Hex and two CDi best sellers, Anitstatic and e-Scape.
Price £29.99 Cat.No. 811 005 6

JAMES BROWN
Soul singer Brown performs 13 songs on this CDi disc.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 000 6

JAZZ GIANTS
Big Band to Bossa Nova – an interactive jazz journey through 19 great songs.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 096 2

KATE BUSH: THE WHOLE STORY '94 (VCD)
Kate has made something of a comeback recently, so enjoy the best of her music on CDi.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 491 288 2

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Explore the achievements and life story of Louis Armstrong as you listen to his music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 031 2

OPERA IMAGINAIRE (VCD)
This title celebrates 400 years of opera through beautifully animated 'live-action' cartoon-like video together with 12 famous arias; for example *Madame Butterfly* and *Carmen*.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 819 101 1

PAVAROTTI
Listen to the world-renowned tenor sing 13 favourite songs while you explore his life story.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 040 2

PETER GABRIEL: ALL ABOUT US (VCD)
Award-winning videos and music on Video CD.
(July)
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 206 5

PINK FLOYD: DELICATE SOUND OF THUNDER (VCD)
Two disc set of Pink Floyd with accompanying video to tracks such as *One of These Days, On the Run* and *Shine.*
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 491 275 2

PINK FLOYD: THE WALL (DV)
Pink Floyd's mid-80's nightmare. Stupendous soundtrack.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 812 542 2

XPLORA 1: PETER GABRIEL'S SECRET WORLD (DV)
Peter Gabriel appears as your on-screen guide, helping you to explore the production of the music, videos and artwork behind his latest album *US*.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 819 102 2

PRELUDE
Study the art and music of the era of Post-Impressionism.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 107 2

QUEEN: GREATEST FLIX 1+2 (VCD)
Freddie Mercury and the boys strut their stuff. Includes a

16-page booklet.
Price £24.99 **Cat. No. 491 271 2**

STING: TEN SUMMONER'S TALES (DV)
The full album with Digital Video and CD sound.
Price £17.99 **Cat. No. 089 566 4**

SADE – LIFE, PROMISE, PRIDE, LOVE (VCD)
14 track collection from this fabulous soul singer including *Your Love is King* and *Smooth Operator*.
Price: £17.99 **Cat. No. OMN102**

THE THE: INFECTED – THE MOVIE (VCD)
The movie of the 1980s album *Infected* by The The.
Price: £17.99 **Cat. No. OMNI 104**

THE THREE TENORS (DV)
Pavarotti, Carreras and Domingo in concert for opera fans.
Price £17.99 **Cat. No. 071 427 4**

THE WORLDS OF... (DV)
Five top bands from the *Rhythm King* label with DV clips, interviews and your own music mixer.
Price £15.99 **Cat. No. 811 003 8**

TINA TURNER: SIMPLY THE BEST '94 (VCD)
Tina Turner compilation album featuring the best of her work.
Price £19.99 **Cat. No. 491 303 2**

TINA TURNER – RIO '88 (DV)
Tina Turner at her sell-out concert in Rio '88, plus full DV footage of Tina on stage.
Price £15.99 **Cat. No: 083 340 4**

TODD RUNDGREN: NO WORLD ORDER
One of the first truly interactive music discs which allows you to play DJ by altering the original tracks.
Price £15.99 **Cat. No. 810 015 9**

2 UNLIMITED: BEYOND LIMITS (DV)
One of the most successful acts of the international house scene, with eight audio tracks and five videos.
Price £17.99 **Cat. No.819 102 1**

U2 – RATTLE AND HUM (VCD)
Captures U2 during their giant Joshua Tree tour.
Price £19.99 **Cat. No. 811 202 3**

INFO & REFERENCE

A CHILD IS BORN
A complete childbirth and pregnancy manual based on the stunning photographs of Lennart Nilsson.
Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 810 005 0**

ART OF THE CZARS
Visit the Russian city of St Petersburg, explore its architecture and study its art.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 105 2**

CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY
The entire dictionary on CDi, plus the Thesaurus, a Dictionary of Synonyms, the spoken pronunciation of all 46,000 words, and a great word game.. **(June)**
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 6**

DUTCH MASTERS
Study 300 paintings from the art of 17th Century Holland.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 811 002 4**

FOOD OF FRANCE
French cuisine presented by Anne Willan, founder of the École de Cuisine la Varenne.
Price £24.99 **Cat. No. 810 005 5**

GREAT BRITISH GOLF
Take an historical trip through 500 years of golfing history.
Price £9.99 **Cat. No. 811 000 4**

HARVEST OF THE SUN (VINCENT VAN GOGH)
Discover the art and life of one of the greatest painters.
Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 690 028 2**

LOVING FOR A LIFETIME (DV)
Two disc sex guide with advice on how to improve your sex life. Cert. **18**
(July)
Price £34.99 **Cat. No 810 015 5**

MAKING LOVE (VCD)
Real couples talk about their sexual problems and how to solve them. Cert. **18**
Price £19.99 **Cat. No. 084 086 4**

PLAYBOY COMPLETE MASSAGE (DV)
Learn an exotic assortment of massage techniques that you can practise with your partner. Cert. **18**
Price £24.99 **Cat. No. 810 008 8**

PRIVATE LESSONS: CLASSICAL GUITAR
Learn to play classical guitar on CDi. Customise your lessons to match your skill level.
Price £49.99 **Cat. No. 810 001 3**

PRIVATE LESSONS: ROCK GUITAR
Learn to play rock guitar on CDi. With examples from Jimi Hendrix to Eric Clapton.
Price £49.99 **Cat. No. 811 003 0**

REMBRANDT: HIS ART AND MUSIC OF THE ERA
17th Century art and music with information in: English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Dutch.
Price £15.99 **Cat. No. 690 154 2**

RENAISSANCE OF FLORENCE
Take a tour of the Renaissance art of Florence.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 036 2**

RENAISSANCE GALLERY
An interactive tour through the masterpieces and music of the Italian High Renaissance.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 044 2**

THE FRENCH IMPRESSIONISTS
A fascinating interactive tour through 19th Century Paris.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 046 2**

THE JOY OF SEX (DV)
The famous sex guide by Dr Alex Comfort goes interactive in this Digital Video title. 30 minutes of full motion video. Free pocket guide with every disc. Cert. **18**
Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 811 000 8**

THE SOLAR SYSTEM
If star gazing is your thing, then throw away that dusty old telescope and join the futuristic world of CDi. Examine the planets from the comfort of your own armchair.
(July)
Price £29.99 **Cat. No. 811 003 9**

TIME LIFE ASTROLOGY
Obtain your daily horoscope & personal solar chart on CDi. Program in your details and let the machine do the rest.
Price £24.99 **Cat. No. 810 013 6**

TIME LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY
Turn your TV screen into a "camera" for a course in 35mm photography.
Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 017 2**

TREASURES OF THE SMITHSONIAN
A guided tour around the world famous Washington Museum.
Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 690 010 2**

WINES OF FRANCE
Interactive guide to French wine and the wine industry.
(July)
Price £39.99 **Cat. No. 810 024 7**

WORLD OF IMPRESSIONISM
Explore the art and music of the era.
Price £34.99 **Cat. No. 690 047 2**

PHOTO CD

NATURE UNDER THREAT
The World Wide Fund for Nature's guide to animals in danger.
Price £9.99 **Cat. No. 811 003 6**

MOVIES

THE ACCUSED (VCD)
Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 **Cat. No. 811 204**

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (VCD)
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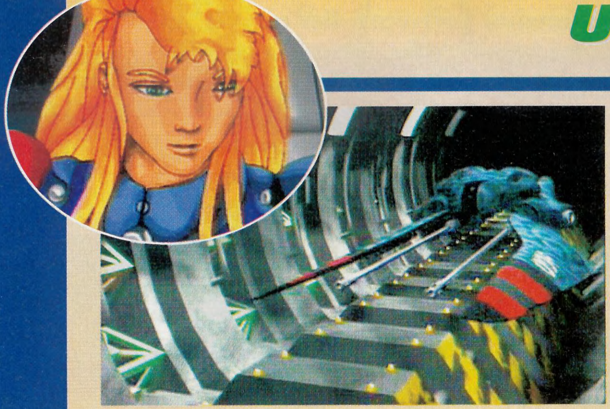

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Kids

1 Surf City
2 Flintstones & Jetsons Timewarp
3 Cartoon Carnival
4 Stickybear Pre-school
5 Stickybear Maths
6 Max Magic
7 Paint School II
8 Muzzy
9 Mother Goose Hidden Pictures
10 Little Monster At School

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4 Crocodile Dundee 2
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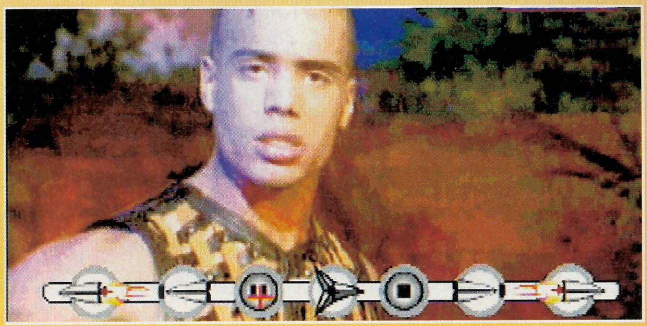
9 Apocalypse Now
10 Top Gun



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1 2 Unlimited
2 Sade: Life, Promise, Pride, Love
3 Queen: Greatest Flix I and II
4 The The: Infected The Movie
5 Peter Gabriel: Xplora
6 Tina Turner: Simply The Best '94
7 Pink Floyd: Delicate Sound of Thunder
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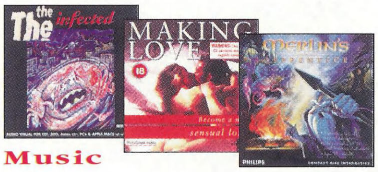

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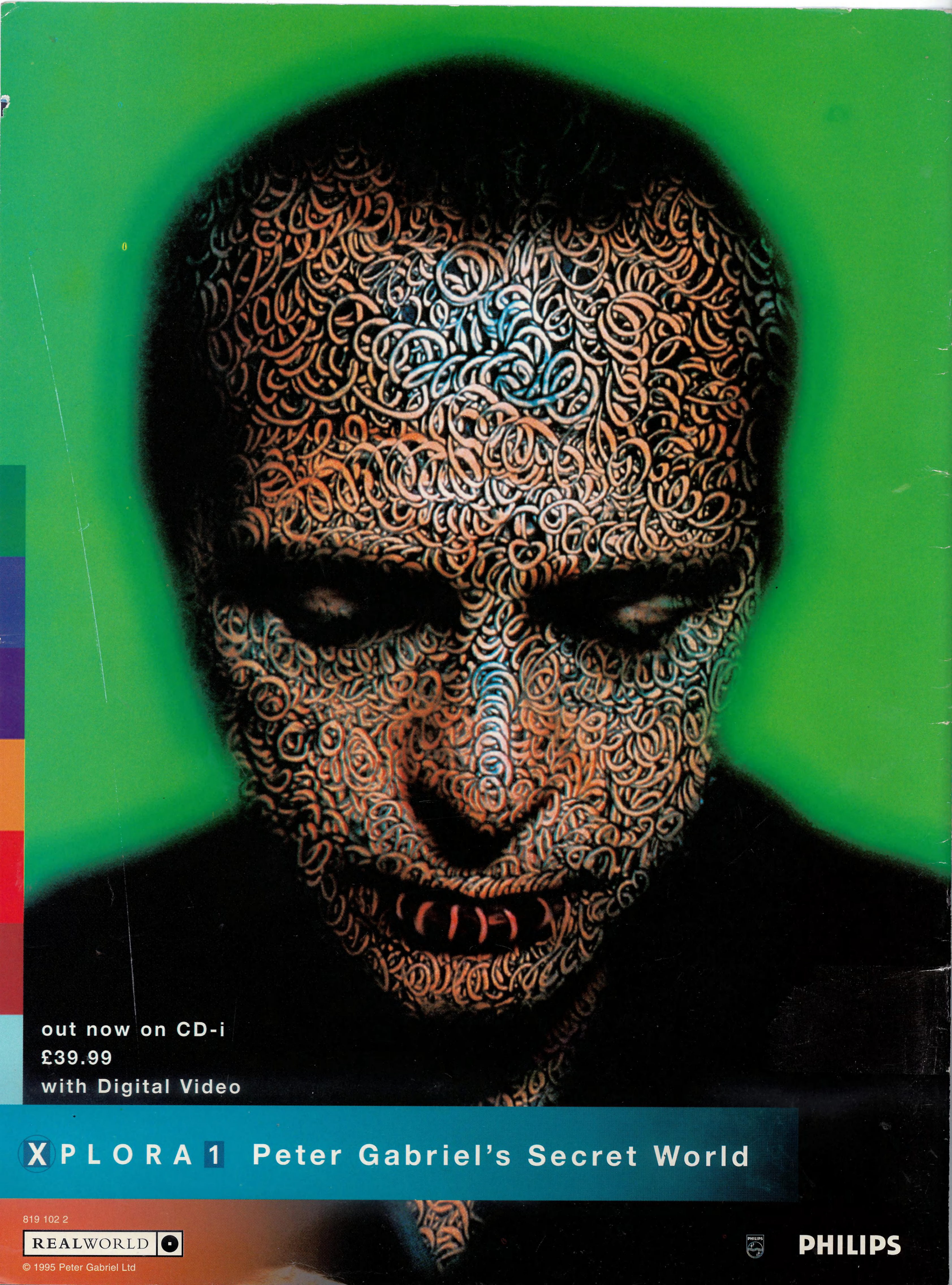
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